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Palestinian Affairs

Commentary Criticizes Baker's Election Statements

JN2109185089 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1646 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Commentary by unidentified radio correspondent]

[Excerpts] Brothers, one of the constants of U.S. Middle East policy is to assert on every occasion the complete adoption of the Zionist occupation's policy toward the Palestinian people and the PLO—the embodiment of the Palestinian people. A few days ago, on 19 September to be specific, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker announced at a news conference in Washington that he was willing to meet with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens and Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid to discuss implementing the election proposals of Zionist enemy Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

The U.S. political and diplomatic concentration on the Shmair proposals enhances the conviction held by those following Middle East developments that the Shamir proposal is actually a U.S. proposal whispered by the U.S. Administration to the enemy prime minister for him to declare before the world as a way out of the situation resulting from the glorious Palestinian popular intifadah [uprising]; and, further, to undermine the world's favorable reception of the Palestinian peace initiative as expressed in the resolutions of the 19th session of the Palestine National Council in Algiers. [passage omitted]

The Palestinian intifadah has exposed Israel before the whole world as an entity based on repression, terrorism, killing, and racism against the Palestinian people. It has also exposed the United States as a superpower adopting the terrorism, racism, and crimes of Israel, its 51st state. As for the Israeli and U.S. statements on a peace based on what is called the Shamir initiative, they are pointless, devoid of any political meaning. This is because Shamir's insistence on holding elections under the occupation is a desparate attempt to end the difficult situation imposed by the intifadah on Israel in the eyes of the world. The U.S. insistence on supporting the Shamir plan encourages the continuing Zionist delusion that there is a military solution to the intifadah rather than a political one.

Nevertheless, the Palestinian people—the people of the intifadah and the PLO—will not halt this deep-rooted intifadah in the Palestinian land. They will not halt the intifadah before the termination of the occupation.

We say to U.S. Secretary of State Baker that there is no solution without the international conference, no solution without recognizing the PLO and the Palestinian state, and no solution without the establishment of this youthful independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.

Palestinian Sources on Egypt's Election Plan

PM2109095289 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 20 Sep 89 pp 1-2

[Zaki Shihab and Muhammad Sadiq report: "'Arafat Demanded Guarantees Before Dialogue With Israel"]

[Excerpts] Cairo, London, Washington, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—A senior Palestinian official has announced that within the next few hours the Fatah Central Committee will hold meetings which will continue for 2 days to discuss all recent new developments, including the Egyptian Government's diplomatic efforts and other international moves related to those efforts, as well as the situation in the occupied territories. [passage omitted]

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that during recent contacts and Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's talks in Cairo, Egypt informed Israel of its rejection of any Israeli changes to Egypt's 10 points concerning the elections before the Israeli Government agrees to conduct an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue.

During the consultations, Egypt stressed its adherence to the formation of the Palestinian delegation to the dialogue on the election plan, the principle of not confining the dialogue to Egypt and Israel, and its rejection of any Israeli attempt to veto any of the Palestinian figures to be included in the delegation to the dialogue with Israel.

Informed sources in Cairo said that during his recent consultations in Cairo Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat informed Egyptian President Husni Mubarak of the PLO's readiness to accept Egypt's 10 points, on condition that there are sufficient guarantees of the elections' being part of a comprehensive settlement and that the final solution will ensure the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories in accordance with Resolution 242. [passage omitted]

PFLP-GC Criticizes Israeli-Hungary Ties

JN2109191889 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] A responsible source in the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] has stated the following regarding the resumption of relations between the Zionist entity and Hungary: For some time now, the Hungarian Government has been trying to come closer to the Zionist enemy in a manner that is not in harmony with the feeling of friendship the Palestinian Arab people harbor for the Hungarian people. The recent step of resuming diplomatic relations with the Zionist government that the Hungarian Government has made, and the conclusion of several agreements, are steps which underline a course of action that the Hungarian Government has persistently taken to distance itself from the friendship of the Palestinian

Arab people and to adopt positions hostile to the Palestinian Arab people's historical national rights in their country, Palestine.

We in the PFLP-GC are surprised at the step taken by the Hungarian Government, and we view it as a something that does not serve Arab-Hungarian relations, not to mention Palestinian-Hungarian relations. We also view the Hungarian Government's resumption of relations with the Zionist entity, at this particular time, as a reward by the Hungarian Government to the Zionist enemy for quelling our people's lofty intifadah [uprising], for killing hundreds of our young men, for its demolition of houses, and for its arresting tens of thousands of our Palestinian people from all walks of life.

PLF's al-Ashqar on Military Operation in Jordan

PM2109153089 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 26 Sep 89 p 13

[Unattributed telephone interview with Palestine Liberation Front Secretary Abu-Nidal al-Ashqar in his office in Tripoli, Libya; date unspecified]

[Text] [Interviewer] Why did you carry out the operation on the first Saturday of this month across the Jordanian borders? What was the objective? And why the Jordanian borders?

[Al-Ashqar] We of the Palestine Liberation Front [PLF] are committed to armed struggle against the Zionist enemy across all Arab borders, at any time and any place. Our concern is to reach the target, regardless of the Arab borders.

[Interviewer] Jordan denies that the operation was carried out from its territory. Was that operation actually launched from Jordanian territory?

[Al-Ashqar] Yes, certainly.

[Interviewer] Jordan is currently experiencing certain conditions. Does the carrying out of such operations at this stage not mean they are aimed at Jordan?

[Al-Ashqar] The objective of our operations is to consolidate the armed struggle policy and to communicate with the people's intifadah [uprising] in the occupied land in order to confirm the unity of the Palestinian people, both outside and inside.

[Interviewer] But the PLO decided to freeze external operations so as to prevent the intifadah from being distorted.

[Al-Ashqar] That is untrue, and no statement was made by the PLO about stopping the armed struggle. The resolutions adopted by the [Palestine] National Council and the Executive Committee prove that.

[Interviewer] Did you consult Syria before carrying out the operation, on the grounds that your command center is in Damascus?

[Al-Ashqar] No. And Syria did not ask us or others to brief it on such matters.

[Interviewer] Why did you choose the Jordanian front, when there are other fronts which are probably nearer to you?

[Al-Ashqar] There is no such thing as nearer or further. We launch our operations when the resources required for that purpose are available to us. Without mentioning names or places, I would be revealing no secrets if I were to say said that we launched 8 operations last month. One of our groups was arrested while heading for its targets across one of the Arab borders. It was arrested and then expelled.

[Interviewer] How committed are you to the PLO's orientations? Does Abu-al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] represent you on the Executive Committee?

[Al-Ashqar] Regardless of whether or not Abu-al-'Abbas represents us, we are a PLO group.

[Interviewer] Who is the PLF's secretary general? Is it not Abu-al-'Abbas?

[Al-Ashqar] In fact since the known split there has been a dialogue between us. The dialogue is still continuing in order to unite our front. An agreement was signed recently whereby Abu-al-'Abbas was appointed temporary secretary general until a general congress attended by both parties is held.

[Interviewer] Does Abu-al-'Abbas have any information about the recent operation?

[Al-Ashqar] It is not necessary for him to be informed. We are agreed on the continuation of armed struggle at any time and any place.

Fatah Central Committee Appointments Reported

JN2209075689 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 20 Sep 89 p 1

[By Najih Khalil]

[Text] AL-SIYASAH has learned that the 18-member Fatah Central Committee will hold a meeting in Tunis today, Wednesday. On the agenda are a number of important issues that will be presented for discussion and study. The most important of these are the distribution of tasks among the Central Committee members and the election of five of them to the movement's political bureau.

The conferees will also discuss the latest developments of the Palestinian political action, the dialogue with Washington, and the Egyptian 10 points amending Shamir's elections plan for the West Bank and Gaza.

AL-SIYASAH has learned that elected Central Committee member Subhi Abu-Karsh, alias Abu-al-Mundhir, is the strongest candidate for assuming the tasks of martyr Leader Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu-Jihad, in the

Occupied Homeland Apparatus. This is due to considerations related to the fact that Abu-al-Mundhir was a member of this apparatus in the past.

Intisar al-Wazir, alias Umm-Jihad, will continue to hold its post as president of the institute of the martyrs' families.

Furthermore, Palestinian sources asserted to AL-SIYASAH that Rafiq al-Natshah, alias Abu-Shakir; Ahmad 'Afanah, alias Abu-al-Mu'tasim; and Matlaq Hamdan have been appointed to the Central Committee so that the number of Central Committee members will rise from 18 to 21. In this context, Abu-Shakir returned 3 days ago to assume his post as ambassador of the State of Palestine to Saudi Arabia after he detached himself from the post since the end of the recent Fatah general congress.

'Arafat Political Adviser Grants Interview

PM1909150689 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 17 Sep 89 p 18

[Interview with Bassam Abu-Sharif, political adviser to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, by Huda al-Husayni; place, date not given]

[Excerpts] [Al-Husayni] What prompted you to announce your readiness to go to Israel?

[Abu-Sharif] The time has come for the world public and everyone, including all moderates in the Arab and Palestinian worlds, to know and be certain that the Israeli Government—in both its parts, the Likud and the Ma'arakh—totally rejects peace and any appeals for withdrawal from Palestinian territory, even under the "land-for-peace" principle, in addition to official Palestinian tendencies represented by the [Palestine] National Council resolutions of 15 November and President Yasir 'Arafat's initiative launched in Geneva 13 December. These initiatives and the readiness to negotiate a just solution—the two-state solution on Palestine's territory and the establishment of a comprehensive peace—have met with total rejection from the Israeli coalition government and with constant and tireless attempts to abort all the efforts to pave the way to peace and to completely expose the cards, including those of Shim'on Peres. We spoke about our readiness to go and negotiate the form of the proposed elections, not just the elections, and then the elections as a step as part of a working plan leading to the elimination of the occupation. After all these attempts, which reached the level I have mentioned, it has become evident that the Israeli Government does not want peace. It has also become evident that the Israeli Government wants to abort the peace efforts. This is why it must be made clear to all Arabs that unless the Arabs' true capacities are used to put pressure on the U.S. Administration to make it, in turn, put pressure on the Israeli Government—which relies totally on the United States financially, militarily, and politically—unless these capacities are used, the United States will not move in the right direction. In other words, all the efforts we have made and all the heroic resistance exerted by the Palestinian people still do not make the U.S. Administration feel compelled or obliged to move toward establishing a just peace. So the question now is this: What is the Arab role? What is the Casablanca summit's role? What is the role of the Arab states bound to the United States by extensive trade and economic relations? Do all the Arab states accept the present unconcerned U.S. attitude and its total submission to the Israeli Government's position? I believe that all our postures and displays of amenability hitherto have borne fruit by totally and unquestionably exposing the Israeli Government's position and the U.S. Administration's collusion with the Israeli Government.

[Al-Husayni] What has your statement about your readiness to go to Israel to do with what you are saying now?

[Abu-Sharif] I said that we wanted to expose the latest card of the Israeli Government's two parties.

[Al-Husayni] Does the Israeli rejection that you have encountered mean the exposure of cards?

[Abu-Sharif] Of course. Shim'on Peres (Israeli vice prime minister and finance minister) said that he was ready to negotiate with an internal and external Palestinian delegation. I am a son of Jerusalem. I was deported from Jerusalem. I am from outside and am ready to negotiate. This is my personal view.

[Al-Husayni] But the PLO has not requested this from you.

[Abu-Sharif] No. I said that this is my personal view. It is not a decision by the PLO. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] In response to your statement, Peres, whose cards you want to expose, said: "We do not need sensational moves." Are you an advocate of sensational moves or of a principle?

[Abu-Sharif] I am not an advocate of sensational moves. Peres is a "snake," and the line he pursues in political maneuvering is a deceptive and dangerous one. The most dangerous thing about it is that it helps to confuse the western public. What Peres—furiously, of course—terms "sensational moves" are what constantly expose him to the West. They expose his true face. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] What if you persisted and went there and were arrested and jailed in Israel, despite the fact that the PLO, which drew up the program, has dissociated itself from your statement?

[Abu-Sharif] I will not go like that, because it would be rash. I said "if," and expressed my conditional willingness. In its brief comment the PLO told the truth, namely, that what I said expressed only my view, not that of the PLO. This, because in the end, when the time is ripe, the PLO will examine how it can eliminate the occupation. And there could be more than one way.

Hitherto the Israeli Government has rejected the PLO, refused to recognize it, rejected it as the Palestinian people's representative, and refused to allow the PLO to name its delegation to negotiations. It also refuses to allow any delegation members to have links with the PLO, whereas the United States recognizes the PLO as the Palestinian people's representative and negotiates with it.

[Al-Husayni] The United States has not recognized the PLO, but holds talks with it without recognition.

[Abu-Sharif] Negotiation with the PLO over the Middle East entails recognition that the PLO represents the Palestinian side; there is no doubt about that. Europe recognizes the PLO and negotiates, plans, and coordinates with it. The world as a whole recognizes the PLO, negotiates, and maintains strong relations with it. But Israel rejects all that. What is the reason for the anger when we embarrass and corner Israel, and when we tell Peres: If you agree to negotiate with external and internal Palestinians, we are are ready? If you do not come to us, we can come to you.

[Al-Husayni] Why are you more enthusiastic than anyone else about the peace offensive? Have you been entrusted with it, or is it your own initiative?

[Abu-Sharif] There are two ways to end our people's sufferings: war or peace. Regardig war, I do not believe that the Arabs' war with Israel is the Arabs' war with the Israel that was established on our territory. It is the Arabs' war with forces much greater than Israel. So I have no illusions, because the balance of power will not allow the elimination of the occupation. This is why we have chosen both war and peace: We have chosen the stone-throwing war, the war of resistance by stone-throwing, which is an expression of the Palestinian people's rejection of the occupation. And we have also chosen the peace initiative which advocates peace. We urged the world as a whole to join us and make efforts to put pressure on Israel to withdraw. My enthusiasm about the PLO's program is supposed to be maintained by any influential man in the PLO committed to its program; or else, we draw up the program and sit down and tell the world: We have performed our duty and this is our program. That would not achieve anything. This, because nothing can be built or achieved like that: a program whose implementation is based on the escalation of the intifadah [uprising] and the continuation of relentless resistance against the occupation, in addition to launching a relentless political war at all levels as well. After sufferings, struggle, pain, sweat, blood, and efforts, the doors may then be opened for such a task. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Regarding the 10 points proposed by Egypt, you mentioned that Peres agreed with Shamir to reject them and it seems that the PLO has voiced reservations. What is your own view?

[Abu-Sharif] No statement has yet been issued by the PLO. Besides, I will not speak on the PLO's behalf. I will give my own view: The 10 points are not a peace plan. They are points which help to specify the concept of the proposed elections in the occupied territories. They are not being rejected, but they are insufficient. This, because any peace plan must specify that it will end the Israeli occupation of Palestine and guarantee the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. It is also understood and internationally recognized that the PLO is the Palestinian people's representative at any negotiations on the details of such a peace plan. As for the form of the elections, as a first step the PLO expressed its willingness for the delegation to both include internal Palestinians assigned by the PLO and external Palestinians who do not necessarily hold leading positions in the PLO.

[Al-Husayni] Why has the United States hitherto refused to grant you an entry visa?

[Abu-Sharif] I have not yet requested a U.S. entry visa.

[Al-Husayni] Did you not try to request one?

[Abu-Sharif] I neither requested, nor tried to request, one.

[Al-Husayni] We have heard that now that you have strengthened your relations with European officials you want to reach officials in the United States.

[Abu-Sharif] First, the efforts I made in Europe were not personal efforts. If any successes were achieved in Europe, they belong to our Palestinian people; they are not my personal successes. They belong to the intifadah, not to Bassam Abu-Sharif. And if there is any political power behind my moves, it emanates from Yasir 'Arafat, to whom I am an adviser. If President 'Arafat instructs me to move into the United States, I will do my utmost to use all my contacts to make that task a success. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] A final question: When asked about the killing of Palestinians on the grounds of their collaboration with Israel, [Fatah Central Committee member] Khalid al-Hasan said in his interview with AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that a decision was issued by 'Arafat that trials be conducted and that evidence be made available. How can such trials be conducted when such acts are secret? Who will bring the evidence and who will pass the verdict?

[Abu-Sharif] What Abu-al-Sa'id [Khalid al-Hasan] said is correct. The mechanism is to send a first warning, then a second, then a third. But if the defendant does not heed the warnings, then he must repent and abandon his errors. If he does not stop after the third warning, his case should be referred to a court. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] But what if the killing continues?

[Abu-Sharif] Hitherto the people as a whole have been committed to Yasir 'Arafat's instructions not to use arms against the Israelis. This means that 'Arafat's and the Palestinian leadership's instructions are regarded as orders to be obeyed. But I would like to say that we have

information that the Israelis have formed a special organ comprising a number of officers from their special forces and Shin Beth (intelligence) officers who sometimes don Arab costumes or plain clothes and enter certain areas to shoot or stab Palestinians so that charges will be leveled at the intifadah. I will now reveal a secret: Four of those killed are local intifadah leaders. We are trying to enlighten people about that method which cannot be stopped completely. [passage omitted]

PLO's Milhim on Messages, Other Issues

JN2109092689 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 19 Sep 89 p 27

[Interview with Muhammad Milhim, PLO Executive Committee member and head of the PLO's Occupied Homeland Affairs Department, by Sawsan Abu-Husayn in Cairo—date not given]

[Text] [Abu-Husayn] It has been said recently that Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] is about to make a new Palestinian proposal on the peace process. It is also said that he will announce this during the upcoming UN General Assembly session—if he attends it—and that the new steps will exceed what he offered in his speech in Geneva. What is your comment?

[Milhim] Brother Abu-'Ammar offered much in his speech before the UN General Assembly in Geneva and no practical steps in the peace process have occurred, not even preparations for the international conference. So, on what basis should the Palestinian side make new proposals? I believe in the opinion which says that there is nothing to encourage Abu-'Ammar to go to the United Nations to deliver a speech that will be a carbon copy of his previous one. I believe that unless the Israeli side offers practical steps equal to what the Palestinian side has offered, everybody will reach a dead end in the peace process.

[Abu-Husayn] Then, what is required from all sides concerned in the Arab-Israeli conflict, particularly Israel, in order to end the deadlock in the peace process?

[Milhim] That a new mechanism be proposed to implement the steps for peace. The PLO has laid the general framework for settlement provided that preparations are made for the international conference, which is the effective formula, by the UN Security Council five permanent members. If this is impossible, then let it be done under the auspices of the United States and the Soviet Union. If there are U.S. reservations in that respect, then let the solution be within the framework of the first alternative.

It is not difficult to arrange for the international conference to take place this fall, and the full arrangements for the peace process can be made during next year, provided all developments on the international political arena since Abu-'Ammar made his speech in Geneva until now are taken into account.

[Abu-Husayn] How can there be arrangements for the international conference while Israel refuses to negotiate with you?

[Milhim] In principle and practically, this can be done, provided that all issues are placed within the sphere of negotiations. Let this be within the framework of a preparatory conference for the international conference during which a mechanism for the peace process, including the subject of elections as part of the comprehensive peace, can be laid. The PLO has declared that it is not against elections.

[Abu-Husayn] Specifically, what are the most important issues that can be placed on the negotiations table?

[Milhim] Everything that has been proposed during the past 12 months, such as the Palestinian initiative; the positive steps proposed by President Bush, foremost of which the call for ending occupation and abandoning the dream of Greater Israel; the political program prepared by the PLO afterward; the resolutions of the Arab summit, which was held recently in Casablanca; the EEC statement issued in Madrid; the Nonaligned Movement's resolutions; and what the UN Security Council has declared. All these constitute an important outcome suitable of becoming a working paper which can then be presented to the superpowers to determine an integrated mechanism for the final settlement.

[Abu-Husayn] Why does Shamir's government refuse to negotiate with the PLO? Is this because Israel's acceptance will equal its acceptance of the peaceful solution and final settlement?

[Milhim] The whole world, with the exception of Israel, has realized the need for the PLO take part in the solution. Therefore, the answer to this question is with the international and Arab communities and with the PLO. The PLO must be a party and it must not allow only the representation of the "inside" [of the occupied territories] because this is an attempt by Israel and the United States to make the PLO abandon its representation. This is done by exerting constant pressure so that the PLO will daily make concession after concession and lose its representative capacity; and, hence, terminate its existence especially after Israel failed to stir dissension within Palestinian ranks.

Hence, we in the PLO adhere to the PLO's direct representation in any future negotiations. Any dialogue by leaders from the "inside" with the Israeli administration must be canceled since the PLO's address is known in Tunis. This is not an inflexible stand, but it is the outcome of the current, continuous Israeli policy, which insists on being intransigent and which is not willing to achieve peace.

[Abu-Husayn] Has a decision been taken by the leadership inside to stop dialogue with the Israeli administration?

[Milhim] The decision was there from the beginning. However, we showed some flexibility in order to facilitate the peace process. But, Israel took advantage of the meetings with Palestinian leaders from the inside in order to deprive the PLO of its representative capacity. The PLO does not have any reservations about dialogue by the Palestinians of the inside if this dialogue will result in the achievement of practical steps that will lead to the final solution and settlement, from which Israel still escapes. It has even proposed a plan aiming to entrench occupation and end any talk about peace. It proposed this under the banner of Shamir's initiative against the Palestinian initiative, which, taken as a whole, aims to achieve peace and security in the region for the benefit of the Palestinian and Israeli peoples.

Anyone who knows our people inside, before and during the intifadah [uprising], cannot doubt them for one moment. We are certain that they will say their word and say that the PLO is the sole representative. This is because they all believe that dialogue away from the PLO will only entrench occupation and the Palestinian leaders inside know this perfectly well. Therefore, terminating their dialogue with Israel does not mean underestimating their role, but it is due to the knowledge of the Zionist goals.

[Abu-Husayn] What is the truth behind the indirect messages exchanged between Israel and the PLO? Why does the Israeli side deny them after they are announced?

[Milhim] What has been circulating recently about messages sent by a number of Israeli officials to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat cannot be disputed. There are many other messages which were conveyed by different persons from the United States and Israel. Messages were also conveyed by Palestinian Arabs from the inside. They met with Rabin, Arens and others many times. They were given messages with the knowledge that they would meet with the PLO and convey these messages.

I have met with a large number of these personalities in Amman in my capacity as head of the Occupied Homeland Affairs Department. The latest message was from Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens. It was an verbal message conveyed by a Palestinian official from a major institute in the occupied homeland who gave me a full report on his meeting with Arens. Arens told the Palestinian official this: If you go to Amman and meet with any [PLO] official, then tell them that the Israeli stand which the PLO must understand is that we will negotiate with the Palestinians of the inside and we will not talk to, or negotiate with the PLO. Our dialogue with you will lead to autonomy during one of the transitional phases.

Arens also asserted to the Palestinian official that there is no hope for the PLO to take part in the settlement phases.

Israel sends almost daily messages to the PLO. They aim to encourage the Palestinians from the inside to negotiate with them—that is, with the civil or military officials of the Israeli Government. They also aim to frustrate our people inside and to assert that there is no hope of achieving any of the PLO's demands.

[Abu-Husayn] What did you say to Arens' envoy in reply to his message?

[Milhim] I asserted to him—in my capacity as a Palestinian official and as a person who lived in the inside for 13 years, during which I was mayor of a Palestinian village and met many times with Israeli officials and discussed with them the Palestinian principles—that the peace process has not changed and remains standing since the seventies. I also told him: Tell Arens that we will not retreat from the Palestinian rights in the face of Israeli intransigence because the Palestinian people have offered more sacrifices than any other people; and, therefore, they are sincere when they talk about peace.

I also told him: Tell Arens that nothing can be achieved unless the Palestinians are offered other than liquidation, entrenchment of occupation, and disregard to the UN resolutions beginning with Resolution 181 and Resolution 242. When you take real steps toward peace, we will respond to what you want. But, if the policy of maneuvering continues, we will not run after a statement made by this or that Israeli or U.S. official.

We have obtained from the United Nations hundreds and thousands of resolutions and we delivered a speech in the United Nations in Geneva. It is high time for us to witness the implementation of the peace process steps in a complete and integrated manner.

Shamir is trying to deceive the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people both inside and outside, by his plan, which he called the Israeli peace initiative, and which I see as an attempt to mix poison with honey to liquidate the PLO's role and entrench occupation. Shamir included elections in his plan not because he believes in the Palestinian people's right to choose their representatives in political action, but to deceive the world into believing that Israel has something to offer to the peace process.

Is it possible for the Israeli Government, which in 1980 refused to hold municipal elections, to call now for political elections. What inspired Shamir—who, together with Begin, said no to municipal elections for 9 years—to accept them now. How can we trust Israel with the lives of the Palestinians who will get elected after our experiences with it in 1972 and 1976.

We say to Shamir that any one elected by our people inside will demand the establishment of the Palestinian state and will demand the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. The intifadah will continue until occupation is over.

[Abu-Husayn] It is expected that the Likud government will take no real steps toward peace and that peace will have to wait for the formation of a new government led by the Labor Party in May. What do you think of this?

[Milhim] I expect nothing even from the Labor Party. This party was in power during the period 1967-77. This party built more settlements during that 10-year period than the Likud has built since.

[Abu-Husayn] How do you view the plan drawn up by Rabin for the settlement phases—the plan sent to Abu-'Ammar through 'Abd-al-Wahhab Darawshah in April?

[Milhim] The question right now is the following: What is the use of plans which are sent clandestinely and divulged behind closed doors—plans which are not followed by a direct and frank encounter between Israel and the PLO? It is now high time to begin a period of public and unequivocal action and to renounce the behind-the-scenes policy which is quickly and easily abandoned.

[Abu-Husayn] How is the Israeli repressive policy and Israel's use of magnetic cards affecting the intifadah?

[Milhim] Our people inside the occupied territories have destroyed most of the magnetic identity cards. Besides, the number of those who leave for "Israel" represents no more than 10 percent of the work force. This percentage will be reduced to zero. Ninety percent of our people refuse to carry these cards. The labor strike will continue until the Israeli Administration retreats and decides not to force these cards on our people. As for the intifadah, our people inside the occupied territories are adapting themselves to cope with all difficulties, as the issue is not one of living conditions. No, the issue concerns the removal of the occupation. Consequently, the price being paid by our people in terms of the blood being shed by martyrs, the sacrifices of our people, and the detention of thousands of persons, is the price paid to end the occupation, not just to end the starvation. Moreover, the whole world supports our people inside the occupied territories. Some are offering political support, while others are providing material support to alleviate the burdens of this people whose determination to continue the struggle and fight is being bolstered.

Israel is attempting to drive our people inside the occupied territories to the verge of despair. It is nursing the delusion that its failure to take any steps to promote the peace process will weaken the Palestinian resistance inside these territories, and consequently help it to quell the intifadah. This is an Israeli delusion, as our people staging their intifadah will escalate it if Israel remains adamant in its antipeace stance. I believe that the intifadah will force Israel to use another language. Otherwise, the alternative will be war.

The maintenance of the current PLO policy and the continuation of the PLO's firm strategy will force Israel and the United States to accept the Palestinian peace initiative. I believe that war is the only alternative if this strategy fails. This alternative is not to the liking of the Palestinian people, the Israeli people, or the world.

[Abu- Husayn] Has the peace process really reached a dead end?

[Milhim] To date, nothing has been achieved. It is not too late, however, for the United States and the international community to come up with something practical, and, as I said earlier, we have no need for further decisions and speeches. We need pressure to make Israel stop turning its back on resolutions approved by the international community.

[Abu-Husayn] You were a member of the Palestinian delegation that held talks during Abu-'Ammar's visit to Amman. Is there anything new in Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation?

[Milhim] The opening of the Palestine National Fund's official headquarters in Amman, undoubtdely, signals an advance in Palestinian-Jordanian relations. The move also facilitates movement across the bridges and augurs well for Palestinian exports to Jordan and consequently eases the burden on our people inside the occupied land, as the situation there, for better or worse, is affected by developments in Jordan.

Abu-'Ammar's recent visit to Jordan has had a positive impact not only on the economic front but also in terms of political coordination between the PLO and Jordan, particulary in light of the upcoming trip to Washington by King Husayn. Furthermore, a joint Jordanian-Palestinian political stance is crucial in the next stage and will have a visible impact on the U.S. Administration. Equally important is Egyptian-Palestinian and Egyptian-Jordanian cooperation—each complementing the other toward attaining something tangible this fall.

[Abu-Husayn] Jordan is said to be opposed to the notion of the Arab five-member committee to prepare the international conference. Has the subject come up between Abu-'Ammar and King Husayn?

[Milhim] We are still in favor of the five-way coordination among the front-line states. Things have not been helped, however, by the Syrian position and Lebanese developments; hence agreement has been reached on three-way cooperation—Palestinian-Egyptian-Jordanian—which it is hoped will develop to be among the five parties once the Lebanese situation, a major stumbling block before the five-member committee, is sorted out.

[Abu-Husayn] It is argued by some that commando action across Arab borders must be stepped up, especially given the escalated Israeli repression of the intifadah. How is Palestinian resistance doing across the Lebanese borders?

[Milhim] There are commando operations every now and then. But instead of directing their weapons against Israel, Arab regimes are training them upon Lebanon—either to Palestinian camps or to Beirut and Sidon. So, the Palestinian effort in Lebanon is quite preoccupied with defending Palestinian camps. It makes no sense for a Palestinian in Lebanon to use his arms against Israel when he is being stabbed in the back. What is happening in Lebanon now serves to advance Israeli objectives and

help it entrench the occupation. It seeks to abort the intifadah and then turn attention to a side issue, namely Arab infighting. Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has warned that the Lebanese war is designed to divert Arab weapons from Israel and use them instead in Lebanon. There are also those who are working on behalf of Israel.

[Abu-Husayn] It has been noted recently that Iraqi-Palestinian rapprochement and cooperation are stronger than before. What are the results of this rapprochement and cooperation?

[Milhim] Cooperation and rapprochement with Iraq were going on even during the Iraq-Iran war. This is essential. As I said before, we attach great importance to cooperation with most Arab states. So far, the outcome is four-way cooperation among Egypt, Jordan, Palestine, and Iraq. The four parties share complete understanding and coordinate their efforts on basic political issues. This is a nucleus to which we are currently preparing to add the rest of the Arab countries. This is in order to carry out the Arab role in the next stage regarding both the situation in Lebanon and the question of peace in the Middle East, especially since Israel is betting on the lack of will among the Arabs regarding the Arab-Israeli dispute. Therefore, the stronger the Arab position is, the more effective and positive are its decisions.

[Abu-Husayn] It is noted that in the Israeli arena in particular there is a two-sided understanding of the nature of peace, especially among what are called the peace forces in Israel. They say yes to peace, but they are deeply afraid of the establishment of a Palestinian state.

[Milhim] The peace forces in Israel acknowledge Palestinian self-determination and the establishment of a state alongside Israel. However, they are afraid. This is a fact. I recall on this occasion an incident when I attended a seminar in Jerusalem in 1977. An Israeli told me then: We believe in the right to self-determination, but we will continue to be afraid of you. I told him: Go to your house and throw away every piece of furniture belonging to the Palestinians, and then go sleep in peace. He said: If I do that, nothing will be left for us inside the house. This shows that peace is not easy. There is a long way to go. It requires a full awareness of the importance of achieving it without fear.

[Abu-Husayn] Abu-'Ammar is expected to visit Kuwait. When will the visit take place?

[Milhim] Abu-'Ammar was not able to visit Kuwait and other Arab states before the Nonaligned Movement summit. I believe he will resume his Arab tour in cooperation with all Arab brothers.

OPEC Affairs

Iraqi Oil Minister on Committee Meeting

JN1109181289 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 1 Sep 89

[Text] Iraq will take part in the second meeting of OPEC's eight-member ministerial committee, scheduled to be held in Geneva on 23 September.

In a statement to INA [Iraqui News Agency], [Iraqi] Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd-al-Rahim al-Jalabi said that the meeting will discuss the subjects on the committee's agenda. He said: They include a discussion of the current state of the oil market; the development of prices and their effects on the OPEC member states' production levels; and OPEC's long-term strategy, particularly regarding OPEC's production and price policy and its relationship with the producers and consumers.

The minister added: Also on the agenda is discussion of the member state's permanent production quotas based on any ceiling to be determined by OPEC on the basis of objective and scientific criteria. The structure of the general secretariat will also be reconsidered.

Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd-al-Rahim said that this meeting is particularly important in view of the number and size of the responsibilities shouldered by the committee, which includes Iraq, Algeria, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela, Indonesia, and Iran.

Egypt

Mubarak Interviewed on 10-Point Plan

JN2109084089 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1940 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Interview with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak by Israeli reporters Ehud Ya'ari and Shlomo Ganor on 20 September in Cairo; the interview is conducted in Arabic with Hebrew subtitles and carried within the weekly program "Moqed"—recorded]

[Text] [Ya'ari] First question, the general impression is that your excellency's meeting with our Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has been successful. It is not clear, however, what exactly has been achieved in this meeting. What sort of progress has been made concerning the Egyptian proposal and the Israeli initiative? We would like to hear more details?

[Mubarak] Let me be very frank. I cannot tell you all the details. There are things which I cannot say. This is something which the Israeli Government may want to keep until a decision is made. We will then know Israel's opinion on it. Regarding the dialogue with Rabin, this is the first time I meet with defense minister.

[Ya'ari] The meeting with Rabin came a bit late. It could have taken place 2 or 3 years ago?

[Mubarak] It could have, but it all depends on circumstances. Rabin came with an verbal message from Shamir. This is something normal. We spoke on how to proceed with the peace process. There is an initiative by Shamir. Fine, we have no objection. Neither the PLO nor anyone else objects to the elections in principle. But what we are talking about is a number of clarifications to make the picture clear to the Palestinians concerning the elections. This is why we presented the 10 points. The 10 points are not a new initiative. We are not wasting Shamir's initiative. We want to explain to the parties concerned, or to help start a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue so we can agree on representatives who will then begin the negotiations. So we suggested the 10 points. In these points we are asking: What will you do concerning the Jerusalem residents? What will you do concerning land for peace, and so forth. All these points are aimed at reassuring the other side and furthering the process. We discussed these points in detail. I can tell you that there is an understanding on this subject. I believe that the subject will be discussed again with the Israeli Government, and within the government, after the return of Peres and Arens from New York.

[Ya'ari] Do you mean that Rabin came with further clarifications?

[Mubarak] No, he came to discuss certain points while knowing our viewpoints on them.

[Ganor] Were there points of agreement between the Israeli and Egyptian sides after the meeting with Rabin?

[Mubarak] There are of course points of agreement, otherwise the 10 points would have been rejected and the process would have been further complicated. Yes, there are points of agreement.

[Ganor] For example?

[Mubarak] I would not like to go into details. Sorry, forgive me for not going into details. But there is still disagreement on some points. There is also disagreement inside Israel on some of the points. There are trends in Israel which agree on certain points and other trends which reject certain points. But I would like to say to Israel that I am not dealing with Israel as Likud or Alignment alone, I am dealing with the Israeli people and Government; or rather with the Israeli Government. We must move foward. We cannot stand still before one, two, or three points. We will be mistaken if we do that. Nobody objects to the elections. We would like to sit down and come to an agreement. The 10 points are essentially to facilitate matters and form two delegations. The important point I would like to say is this: Gentlemen, let me be very frank and say that you cannot continue demanding negotiations with a delegation from the West Bank and Gaza only.

[Ya'ari] So?

[Mubarak] So, you cannot say that the dialogue should be only with the Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza. This will not do. I am not instigating. I am only saying that I understand the psychology of the people there. You have to bring in outside Palestinians.

[Ganor] What do you mean, Mr President?

[Mubarak] I mean there should be agreement. We must not complicate matters. What difference will it make if there are one or two outsiders in a delegation of 10 members. Will they veto the 10? On the other hand, without the outsiders, those inside will not make a single move.

[Ya'ari] Mr President, I have a question concerning the land-for-peace principle. Is this a condition for initiating negotiations? This is a very important point, very important as far as Shamir is concerned.

[Mubarak] Listen, I want to tell you something. Let us speak frankly. Since Israel was established, it has been at war. Have you tried peace?

[Ganor] With Egypt.

[Mubarak] Have you tried peace? Peace must be comprehensive for all. Have you tried peace. No. While only a small category feel the advantage of war, many categories feel the harm: Lives are lost, money is spent, hatred is intensified, and violence is escalated. Under peace, however, the entire Israel will benefit. It will have good relations with the whole world, with its neighbors. Tell me, with which neighboring countries do you have good relations? Let us speak frankly: With Syria, no; with Jordan, no; among all the Arab countries, it is only with

Egypt that you have relations. Be assured that under comprehensive peace, it is enough for the Israeli to sit relaxed in his country. He begins to work to improve himself; he begins looking for a higher standard of living; he begins to cooperate with many surrounding countries instead of sitting with the feeling that everybody wants to hit him and kill him—which is not the case. Everybody wants to cooperate under peace. Peace, therefore, deserves everything. But how can peace be achieved without you giving land? This is my land; will you tell me no, there is no land in return for peace? How, then, do you want to achieve peace? There should be land given for peace. If there is no land, then there will be no peace. This is the logic of things.

[Ya'ari] Is this a condition for holding the meeting here in Cairo? By principle do you mean condition?

[Mubarak] Yes, this should be a principle. We do not want to use the word "conditions" and complicate matters. This is a principle for both of us to accept. The subject of my land is discussed in the negotiations. We do not want to go into detail of what land [is to be given] and what is not; no, the principle is there. We should not escape from this principle. There will be no peace without land.

[Ganor] Mr President, if I understand you correctly, the principle of the existing peace between Israel and Egypt must apply to all the other fronts?

[Mubarak] Why not? But each front in accordance with its circumstances. We know that the subject of the West Bank and Gaza is a complicated one; there is perhaps some difference, but there must be land [traded for peace], there must be land. In order for these people to accept peace, give them hope that they have land to live in peacefully. Where will they live?

[Ganor] Knowing that the Israeli peace initiative, including the election plan, ignores the role of the Palestinian organization [PLO], does your excellency think that the organization should clearly and openly participate in the negotiations?

[Mubarak] Let the Palestinians outside participate and the PLO [words indistinct]. Everybody holds the PLO mark. Aren't there PLO men in the West Bank and Gaza?

[Ganor] Yes.

[Mubarak] Yes, and they are members of the PLO. Why do you not expell them and refrain from dealing with them because you do not want to deal with the PLO? Second, do the Palestinians outside hold labels identifying who are PLO members and who are not? How are you going to distinguish them?

[Ya'ari] The problem is that Israel, Rabin, and Shamir alike and many others, agree that they do not want to negotiate with the PLO as an institution, a symbol.

[Mubarak] They can choose representatives not from among the leaders, and the PLO does not mind this.

[Ya'ari] Doesn't Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] mind? Does Yasir'Arafat agree that the negotiations begin without the participation of representatives known to the PLO?

[Mubarak] Not the leading names. This is something about which we should agree. The principle is there. [Word indistinct] does the PLO bite? Why do you fear it? Tell me why are you frightened of the name PLO?

[Ya'ari] We are not frightened.

[Mubarak] Then what?

[Ya'ari] We fear the things it wants, and....

[Mubarak, interrupting] My God, what it wants frightens the entire world! Come on, people, God gave us brains to use. If we want peace, we should ignore minor things in the way. Shall we continue as we are now? There are daily fatalities among you and among them. Are you happy? Mothers are seeing their children killed; blood is being shed. We are human beings. Shall, then, we continue to be stubborn and say this and that? Sir, the PLO does not mind that we, in coordination with it, select names that are not from the PLO key figures [preceeding two words in English].

[Ganor] Nevertheless, Mr President, the Palestinian position on the recent developments is not clear. According to your information, does Yasir 'Arafat agree to the proposal of holding the elections to reach an interim agreement with Israel?

[Mubarak] Look, brother, to start the process there must be a link between the interim step and the final solution. I must give them hope, because we are not just seeking an interim agreement. Second, why do we want the dialogue? Will a dialogue make a treaty and agreement? We want them to sit together and talk as is happening between the Americans and the Palestinians. The Americans are conducting a dialogue with the Palestinians. Why do you not also start a similar dialogue with not so well-known elements? Sit down and hold a dialogue. Exchange viewpoints. Understand each other. You will find that there are many points of agreement. When you sit together you will be able to reach solutions, and all peace-loving nations will support you.

[Ganor] But so far, Mr President, the PLO has not said yes or no. Its position is not clear?

[Mubarak] But you also are doing the same thing. You do not say yes or no ["yes", "no" in English]. I have submitted the 10 points to you. So you must say yes not no ["yes", "no" in English]. So let us be honest with one another without losing our tempers?

[Ya'ari] It seems the problem with the 10 points is that they are slightly vague?

[Mubarak] Slightly what?

[Ya'ari] Vague?

[Mubarak] No, no. They are not vague whatsoever. They are crystal clear. Land for peace is clear. Suspension of settlement building is clear. Everything is clear. But if you want to make them vague, you are free to do so.

[Ya'ari] The 10 points do not insist on prior guarantees before beginning the dialogue?

[Mubarak] Do they contain guarantees?

[Ya'ari] They do not insist on giving guarantees.

[Mubarak] The 10 points are principles. We should first approve them in principle and then discuss them in the dialogue.

[Ya'ari] Without prior guarantees?

[Mubarak] Without preconditions. Let us approve the 10 points in principle and then enter the dialogue to come to an understanding. You might convince them or they might convince you to develop any point.

[Ya'ari] Is Abu-'Ammar, Yasir 'Arafat, ready to begin the negotiations without prior guarantee for the right of self-determination for the Palestinian state?

[Mubarak] Do not start this subject now. I gave you 10 points. So do not deviate from the subject. Let us concentrate on the 10 points and the elections. Let us make them sit together to hold the dialogue. But if you want to complicate matters right from the beginning, then you will not sit together and there will be no dialogue. What is our present objective? We want the two sides to sit together and hold a dialogue on these points, the future, linking the interim solution with the final solution, and so forth. Once they have started the dialogue and understand each other, they will definitely find many points of agreement. We can then start the negotiations process. The main aim is for the two sides to sit together and hold a dialogue so that we can hold the elections and agree on the representatives. After agreeing on the representatives we will consider the negotiation phase.

[Ganor] Mr President, but the subject of the elections is one of the four points in the Israeli peace initiative. From the Israeli viewpoint, you cannot...

[Mubarak, interrupting] What peace initiative?

[Ganor] The peace initiative...

[Mubarak, interrupting] There is only one peace initiative, the al-Sadat initiative. So do not invent things. No initiative rises above the al-Sadat peace initiative. Do not speak about an initiative and deceive yourselves.

[Ganor] The Israeli plan...

[Mubarak, interrupting] That is better. I agree with you here.

[Ganor] The Israeli plan has four points. One of them deals with the elections. Why does Egypt tackle the election subject only and ignore the others.

[Mubarak] What are the other three points?

[Ganor] Resettling the refuguees, Israeli-Egyptian relations, and peace.

[Mubarak] What are these Israeli-Egyptian relations? What have they got to do with solving the Palestine question?

[Ganor] Egypt is a bridge of peace between Israel and the other Arab countries.

[Mubarak] What has this got to do with Shamir's proposal to solve the Palestine question?

[Ya'ari] Shamir wants a statement from Egypt, Israel, and the United States that the Camp David accords are still in force [last two words in English].

[Mubarak] Listen, do not live in the dark. Camp David was a framework of principles to solve the question. We abided by the first part, because it dealt with the Egyptian-Israeli problem. We took these principles and made a treaty. They were principles and bases. The second part was a framework [last word in English] and principles to solve the Palestine question. But I will never force it on the Palestinians. Nobody can force it on the Palestinians. Dialogue alone can produce points of agreement with the Palestinians. But if you are trying to make me force on the Palestinians an agreement that I reached with Israel and the Americans, this is unfair.

[Ya'ari] Why do you avoid a meeting with Shamir to discuss this particular subject?

[Mubarak] What? Hold a dialogue to discuss this subject? I must not know first what the outcome will be. [as received] Do you want me to hold dialogue with him so in the end he will say no?

[Ya'ari] Mr President, when you meet with the PLO chairman, either here or in Belgrade, do you have any guarantees about the results of the meetings? No.

[Mubarak] How do you know that I do not have guarantees?

[Ya'ari] No, I am just asking.

[Mubarak] There are things that we say and agree about without declaring them. Why should we declare them? Does anybody show all his cards?

[Ya'ari] No, but there is some kind of feelings in Israel that there is lack of balance.

[Mubarak] No. When we tell you a word concerning the PLO, it means we studied, discussed, and obtained PLO approval of this word. We are not a small country to say something and cancel it the next day saying we fooled you. When we discuss a subject, we do it right.

[Ya'ari] The point is that there is feeling in Israel that some kind of lack of balance exists between the current Egyptian diplomacy and the contacts it makes with both the PLO and Israel.

[Mubarak] What do you mean by lack of balance?

[Ya'ari] Anybody who reads tonight's newspapers will see. Shamir feels that your excellency does not want to see him.

[Mubarak] My God! Well, what is the point of seeing and embracing him? Do you want to score success and leave me to tell public opinion that Mr Shamir and I came up with nothing? In order for me to meet with Shamir, there must be something to justify the meeting before public opinion. Otherwise, what is the point? Shall we tell people that we achieved nothing? This will cause frustration. But I want to tell you something: A fruitless meeting with Mr Shamir, I can predict, will psychologically complicate things between the Egyptian and Israeli people. In December last year, I announced that I was ready to go to Israel and meet Mr Shamir if this would help push forward the peace process. A week or 10 days later, U.S. President George Bush, then a vice president, said he was ready to travel to the Middle East if that would help push forward the peace process, but this needed delicate arrangements. After I made my statement, Shamir reacted as follows: No, to the international conference and no, to land-for-peace barter. Your press asked him what was the price for President Mubarak's visit, and he said no price for the visit. God, you close all doors and invite me? I will, of course, say no, I am not going. I say I want to go to you, and you tell me there are many no's. So what shall I discuss with you? You close the door and say come in?

[Ganor] But your excellency, all these statements were made before the Israeli plan.

[Mubarak] Listen, I heard all the statements; let us not fool each other. The successive statements coming out of Israel show the mentality of the person with whom I am dealing. Therefore, I should be careful. What is the matter? Do you want the meeting for the sake of the meeting? I have no time for a meeting unless there is a result. Messages are being exchanged. You all are concentrating on a meeting—and this was also mentioned to me in the United States—but tell me what will be the outcome of the meeting? If I meet with Mr Shamir today without any prior preparations or results to announce, frustration will be caused for both the Egyptian and Israeli people.

[Ganor] Are there any preparations to create such a climate for a future meeting?

[Mubarak] Certainly. Do you think that I am afraid to meet Mr Shamir? No. I fear neither Shamir nor anybody else. We should arrange things and begin studying the subject so that we come up with something from the meeting. I met with Mr Peres when he was a prime minister, and I met him later in Geneva when he was deputy prime minister and foreign minister; I will also meet him in New York. And I met Mr Arens here, in this building. If there is logic, I hold meetings, but when you start closing doors, then this.... [changes thought]. It is like locking the door and saying come in. "Open the door," you say. "I do not have the key" comes the answer. So, how can I enter? Say what do you want. But be fair [preceeding word in English]. Since you say to the Israeli people, just be fair.

[Ganor] Who do you think holds the key?

[Mubarak] You hold the key; you have it. How can I enter when you lock your door? You close the door with your three no's. You locked the door too firmly, and you still say come in?

[Ya'ari] Let us assume that the proposed Israeli-Palestinian meeting in Cairo will take place. Do you think that the two sides—the Israeli and Palestinian sides—will be guaranteed the appropriate climate and calm during the talks?

[Mubarak] I will tell you something. How long has the conflict been in existence. More than 40 years. Do you want the dialogue, after all these years, to oe very quiet and with no obstacles? No, they will become angry, disagree, walk out, and we will speak with them again, and make contacts here and there, and the world will intervene, and we will bring them back. The question is how to get them together.

[Ya'ari] I meant calming the situation in the West Bank and Gaza.

[Mubarak] What about the West Bank and Gaza?

[Ya'ari] Shall we assume that during the talks the situation in the West Bank and Gaza will be made quiet?

[Mubarak] What makes the situation quiet is the initiation of this dialogue with a conviction on the part of the public opinion inside [the occupied territories] that there is hope for movement. So, be quiet people, because there is hope to solve the question. I think the people will respond favorably.

[Ya'ari] Apart from Israel, the Palestinians, and an Egyptian delegation, who will attend the meeting, if held here God willing.

[Mubarak] I will not answer this question.

[Ya'ari] Why?

[Mubarak] Because the dialogue should begin between us and Israel.

[Ya'ari] Will the Russians and the Americans be invited?

[Mubarak] I cannot tell you. Ask the Israeli Government. We are discussing this now.

[Ya'ari] What is your excellency's opinion?

[Mubarak] What we are going to agree upon will be my opinion.

[Ganor] Your excellency, are you refraining from answering the question to evade the problem of the international conference?

[Mubarak] [Word indistinct] the international conference in the U.S. dialogue. Listen: What are you trying to get at? Do not beat around the bush. You and the other do not speak with each other, and I want to bring you together to talk. You will, of course disagree and debate, and then agree on the subsequent method of action. I do not want you to jump to conclusions [preceding three words in English]. We want to start a dialogue in which the two parties sit together to discuss things and reach understanding. The dialogue will ultimately lead to the process of negotiations.

[Ganor] So is Egypt evading the subject of the international conference for the time being?

[Mubarak] I am not evading it. The entire world approves the international conference. Do not let us get into this. Let us stick to the question of dialogue.

[Ya'ari] Does Jordan have any role in this dialogue; perhaps not in the first stage, but in the second, or the third?

[Mubarak] That might be possible, and it depends on the agreement to be reached.

[Ya'ari] In your opinion....

[Mubarak, interrupting] Jordan is a concerned country; no one can ignore this at all. Perhaps in the first stage the Israeli and Palestinian delegations sit together, and at an advanced stage, Jordan must join.

Further on Peace Plan

NC2109215589 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1930 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Sep (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has highlighted the need for a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue to start at once, stressing that if it does not, a unique opportunity to achieve peace in the Middle East will be wasted. President Mubarak said that if Israel wants peace, it must give land in exchange. He noted that the notion of "peace in exchange for peace" cannot be considered as long as the Palestinian people are without a homeland.

In an interview with Muhammad Jasim al-Saqr, chief editor of the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS, which will be published on Friday, President Mubarak pointed out that the PLO must have its say in the Palestinian issue. Mubarak noted that there is a lack of confidence between the Palestinians and the Israelis, and that mutual trust must be establisheed. He then asked: How can we build this trust without starting a dialogue?

In his interview, President Mubarak emphasized that he is neither asking the Palestinians and the Israelis to enter into direct talks nor setting the conditions for these talks. He said he just wants a dialogue to start in order to reach an understanding on how the elections in the occupied Arab territories could be held, on what the next step after the elections will be, and how a final settlement could be attained.

In response to a suggestion that by launching the Egyptian initiative President Mubarak wants to strike a blow at Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, the president said: It is against my principles to strike at or insult any one. I might criticize a certain policy, but I do not strike at anyone. He added: I do not want to deal a blow to the Israeli Government; I do not want us to waste time while a year or 2 passes by until a new government is elected in Israel.

President Mubarak added: I address the Israeli Government to tell it and the Israeli people that you have not tasted peace since the state of Israel was established nearly 41 years ago. I tell them: Try peace, because it is precious. Peace has a price, and it cannot be attained without returning the land.

President Mubarak noted that it is very important for the parties to meet and hold a dialogue; problems cannot be solved by correspondence through "carrier pigeons," he declared. Direct dialogue leads to joint understanding and eliminates differences, he added, citing the U.S.-Vietnamese war that lasted for several years but ended only at the negotiating table in Paris.

Asked what the chances of success are for his 10 points, President Mubarak said: To be fair, I would rather not talk about a certain percentage. Israel is thinking about them, and if it thinks logically, and I believe there are many in Israel who follow the path of reason, it will accept these points, which are questions on Shamir's principles for holding the elections.

In this connection, Mubarak said we have not rejected the proposal for holding elections; we have just demanded clarifications so that we may sit together and begin a dialogue on a clear basis and without preconditions. Noting that he is optimistic by nature, the president said: "I hope Shamir will not prove me wrong, otherwise a unique chance will slip away. I am optimistic, but Shamir is complicating things."

On the Lebanese issue, President Mubarak reiterated that if we want Lebanon to be a stable and sovereign state, all troops must leave the country; that is, he said, all non-Lebanese troops must leave Lebanon. After that, should Lebanon want to establish special relations or conclude special agreements with Syria, it would be free to do so, but only once it has become an independent and sovereign state.

Asked to what degree the Lebanese crisis is related to what is happening in the occupied Arab territories, President Mubarak said the Palestinian issue is the core

of the problems in the region. If we manage to resolve the Palestinian issue, the rest of the problems will be solved as well, he declared.

Regarding the importance of Arab cooperation at this time, President Mubarak underlined the need for amity and trust to prevail among the Arab states. He also stressed that cooperation must exist among them in the interest of their people. He said: We need to be in agreement, but should we disagree, let us agree to disagree. It is important that cooperation among us be based on sound rules, in the interest of all of us.

He noted in this respect that the groupings abroad are in agreement. He gave the example of Europe, which will be economically united in 1992, while the Arab states are still divided and incapable of establishing an Arab entity that could deal with the EC or with the North American bloc.

Regarding the role Egypt could play in this respect, President Mubarak said Egypt cannot carry out such a role by itself, but it could do so in conjunction with our brothers in Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and others who enjoy freedom of movement in the Arab world. "Together," he said, "we could do something, and we have to do something or we will miss the boat."

President Mubarak stressed the need to promote Arab-African cooperation, noting that his election as OAU chairman put additional burdens on him which he must endure for the benefit of the African people.

Turning to the issue of foreign debts, President Mubarak paid tribute in this connection to the stand of Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al- Sabah, the amir of Kuwait, although Kuwait is a creditor, not a debtor country. He added that unless reforms are introduced regarding the issue of debts and their burdens in a way that will guarantee the continuation of development, borrowing, repayment, and international trade, the result will be a drop in development rates in the Third World. Growth rates in the advanced industrial states would also fall dramatically as a result of the drop in the Third World's consumption and imports, he stated.

He called for the start of a North-South dialogue on a number of issues, including the debt. He referred here to the initiative that Egypt, India, Senegal, and Venezuela undertook with the seven industrial states in Paris in July in order to start a dialogue on the debt issue.

Regarding the establishment of the Arab Cooperation Council, President Mubarak stressed again that it is not a grouping or an axis against anyone. He added: We are not advocates of axes, and the door is still open for other states to join us once the rules are set.

On domestic policy, President Mubarak said he is not ready to direct his efforts to anything other than promoting the development and reform plans, building the infrastructure, developing agriculture and industry, and searching for ways to alleviate the burdens of the citizens.

Regarding democracy, he said: I tell the parties there is room for public work and for helping the people. If the government makes a mistake, why not discuss the matter with it, try to correct it, and make a better suggestion. He added: I work to serve the people who elected me, and all my efforts are directed toward improving the people's living standards. I have no free time to waste on anything else. Time is valuable, and efforts must be only exerted to serve the people. He emphasized that he is happiest when he sees the people happy and production increasing, particularly the kind of production that benefits the people and fulfils their needs.

Mubarak Calls Israeli Elections 'Waste of Time'

TA2109124689 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 21 Sep 89 p 2

[Report on an interview with President Husni Mubarak by "special" correspondent in Cairo Gay Bekhor; on 20 September at the Heliopolis Palace]

[Excerpt] "Relations between Egypt and Israel will not be damaged if Israel rejects the 10-point plan, but you will forfeit genuine peace with the Arabs," Egyptian President Husni Mubarak said yesterday in an interview with HADASHOT, conducted at his palace in Heliopolis.

"I hope I will not be the one to cause the fall of the Israeli Government. In any event, new elections in your country would be a waste of time, because by the time you elect a new government, you will have missed the chance for peace. I found during my talks with Rabin that there is agreement between us. The 10 points are mere clarifications, a preparation for an Israeli-Palestinian encounter, which is designed to break psychological barriers. The barrier between you and the PLO must be broken, because there will be no peace without the PLO." [passage omitted]

'Arafat Meets Mubarak, Departs Cairo

NC2109115789 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 21 Sep (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat left Cairo this afternoon after a visit lasting several hours during which he met with President Husni Mubarak.

'Arafat was seen off at the airport by Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary of the Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs.

Holds News Conference

NC2109181489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1651 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Cairo, 21 Sep (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has renewed his invitation to Israeli officials and people to initiate a dialogue with Palestinians, in order to bring about a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

"We will always be receptive to a dialogue leading to a just and comprehensive peace, and based on the international legitimacy [al- Shar'iyah al-Duwaliyah] in which we all believe," 'Arafat said. He was speaking at a news conference he held in Cairo at noon today, after his meeting with President Husni Mubarak. The news conference was attended by local, international, and Israeli correspondents. [passage omitted]

The full report of 'Arafat's news conference follows:

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr President, have you agreed to attend a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue, and what are your conditions?

['Arafat] First of all, we formulated an initiative in the Palestine National Council and I was entrusted to declare it at the United Nations. As you may remember, speaking from the UN rostrum in Geneva I called on Israeli leaders to open a dialogue in order to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

[Correspondent] Why are you holding this news conference in Cairo now, after your meeting with President Mubarak? We know that you meet frequently with President Mubarak but do not hold news conferences afterwards.

['Arafat] I always meet journalists and answer their questions.

[Correspondent] Can you tell us anything about the names of the Palestinians who will take part in the talks with Israel, in accordance with President Mubarak's proposal?

['Arafat] Nothing has been decided so far. Everything is still being examined.

[Correspondent] Do you agree in principle to begin gradual negotiations [al-tafawud al-tadriji] by a delegation including, for instance, 10 persons from the West Bank and Gaza?

['Arafat] As I said, this topic is still under discussion and nothing has been decided. President Mubarak and other friends are trying to reach a total agreement on all these issues.

[Correspondent] Did your talks with President Mubarak today touch on the names of members of the Palestinian delegation?

['Arafat] How can we discuss the names if we have not yet reached any definitive agreement?

[Correspondent] What is your assessment of President Mubarak's recent talks in Cairo with Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, in light of what President Mubarak told you today?

['Arafat] President Mubarak has told me that he considers his talks with the Israeli defense minister positive in terms of the efforts to bring about a just peace in the region.

[Correspondent] Do you agree to direct talks between a Palestinian and an Israeli delegation in accordance with the UN Security Council resolutions?

['Arafat] I told President Mubarak that we will always be receptive to a dialogue leading to a just and comprehensive peace, and based on the international legitimacy in which we all believe. I do not think that anyone should oppose international legitimacy as a basis for settlements.

[Correspondent] President Mubarak recently indicated that you are prepared to visit Israel and hold negotiations with Israeli officials....

['Arafat, interrupting] President Mubarak did not say so; he was asked a question and the answer was different.

[Correspondent] Do you have any specific views as to who will participate in the Palestinian delegation from outside the [occupied] territory?

['Arafat] I repeat once again that this subject and its details are still under discussion.

[Correspondent] President Mubarak told an Israeli press delegation yesterday that your excellency has agreed to the holding of a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue.

['Arafat] This indicates that you have not understood what I have said. I have called for this since I announced the Palestinian peace initiative at the United Nations and I hope that you will go back to my speech to the United Nations in November 1988. I said : I invite the Israeli leadership to come and hold a dialogue with me within the framework of the search for peace in the region, and my invitation still stands. I hope you will convey this invitation to the entire Israeli people and all the Israeli officials, and I hope there will be an answer and a response to what I am saying.

[Correspondent] Why did you in the Fatah Movement decide to step up the armed struggle against Israel?

['Arafat] It seems you have not read the political statement issued by Fatah. I hope you will be accurate in your question; read the statement first, then ask me the question.

[Correspondent] Suppose a final agreement were reached to establish a Palestinian state next to the state of Israel, do you think this would put an end to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict?

['Arafat] Yes. This is what I said in my speech to the United Nations. This is the road to a just, full, and true peace in the region, again as I said in the initiative that I announced at the United Nations and at the news conference that followed my speech. I repeated this recently in my speech before the nonaligned summit and again in my speech at the OAU summit. The Palestinian peace initiative is a strategic initiative and not a tactical move.

[Unidentified Israeli journalist] What is your stand on the Palestinians' right of return?

['Arafat] What did you tell the Jews who left the Soviet Union or any other country and whom you forced to come to Israel? Why do you force them and prevent the U.S. Government from giving them facilities to go to America? Do not forget that there are 600,000 Palestinians in Latin America.

[Correspondent] What about the U.S. Administration's role during the coming phase?

['Arafat] We wish that U.S. President George Bush and the U.S. Administration would play the role that we expect them to play and help to start a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. We also wish they would help by persuading the Israeli Government to accept the principle President Bush has announced; namely, withdrawal to the borders of the territories occupied by Israel, and the implementation of the Palestinian people's legitimate political rights, including their right to self-determination.

[Unidentified Israeli journalist] What about the fact that Palestinians are killing each other?

['Arafat] First, let us say: Are you sure that the Palestinians are doing that? You are completely disregarding what the Israeli Army is doing and its killing of many Palestinians. You must take into consideration the number of Palestinians killed daily. First and foremost, the Unified Command of the intifadah [uprising] has issued clear orders to halt these actions and has declared that no one should be killed without a summary trial. This has been declared in several statements as well as in the monthly message that I address in my own voice to my countrymen in the occupied territories. We completely reject the notion that any innocent person should be harmed, even slightly, or killed. This is the clear stand of the Palestinian leadership. I have declared this several times in my speeches and so has the Unified Command. The principal issue is the daily killing of our children, women, and men. As you know, 932 Palestinians have been martyred so far, 60 percent of whom were under the age of 16. Do you approve of your son being killed? Our children are being killed. Is this not sinful? Is this what the Torah preaches? You are violating the Torah by doing this. Three martyrs fell at 0830 today.

[Unidentified Israeli correspondent] Why could there not be a reciprocal truce between the Palestinians and the Israelis?

['Arafat] There is something I want to say. Am I the one who is occupying the land? You are the ones who are occupying it. Let us do what they did in Namibia where, with the participation of the United States, an agreement was reached called the New York agreement. I appeal to Israeli society to agree to a peace treaty, and I am ready to sign this treaty after the Israeli withdrawal. The question is: Will Shamir agree to the implementation of Security Council Resolution 242, which stipulates that Israel withdraw from the territories that it occupied in 1967?

[Israeli Correspondent] What about the composition of the Palestinian delegation?

['Arafat] You are free to form your delegation. We too are free to choose the members of the Palestinian delegation.

[Correspondent] With which of President Mubarak's 10 points do you agree and with which do you disagree ?

['Arafat] They are not points but questions, as President Mubarak has repeatedly pointed out, particularly during interviews he has given in the past 2 days. They are all questions addressed to the Israeli Government. I am waiting for the Israeli Government's answer to President Mubarak's questions; so is the Arab League, the Arab states, and the entire world. Even the United States itself is waiting for an answer.

[Correspondent] Does an international peace conference remain the best formula for a settlement? Also, why do you reject elections in the West Bank and Gaza?

['Arafat] There is no substitute for an international conference. The permanent members of the UN Security Council have agreed to the holding of the conference. Even the United States has in principle approved the convocation of this conference. I also know that several Israeli parties, regardless of the size of their following in Israeli society, agree in one way or the other to the holding of such a conference.

Any Palestinian-Israeli dialogue should be seen as preliminary to furthering the peace process through an international conference. Also, who said that I am against the elections? We are a democratic movement. But can any elections be held under occupation?

[Correspondent] Do you accept that the new Palestinian state should be demilitarized, as is the case in Namibia?

['Arafat] Is it true that Namibia is demilitarized? I approve of any agreement that is exactly similar to the U.S.-sponsored agreement concerning the solution of the Namibian problem. Why do you want us to live in conditions which you would not accept for yourselves? You have the largest number of chemical warheads and between 180 and 200 nuclear warheads. You also have long-range missiles with a range of 1,600 km. This means that half the Arab capitals are within reach of these weapons.

[Correspondent] Are you planning to go to the United States to attend the UN General Assembly meetings?

['Arafat] This issue is still under discussion by the Palestinian leadership.

Egypt, Israel To Discuss Border Issues 20-21 Sep

JN2109141089 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 19 Sep 89 pp 1, 6

[Text] Egyptian-Israeli meetings will be held in Cairo tomorrow and the day after to discuss navigational problems in the Gulf of Aqaba and port of Elat. The

conferees will discuss arrangements for the movement of Israeli boats and yachts into and out of Egyptian territorial waters without prior permission. This is in return for allowing Egyptians to enter Elat and Beersheba showing their passports without a visa. Reciprocal protests were reported recently between Cairo and Tel Aviv following the death of an Israeli boat captain after he was shot by the Egyptian security forces for violating Egyptian territorial waters in the Gulf of Aqaba. Egypt also protested frequent violations of Egyptian waters by Israeli vessels.

The Israeli delegation includes experts from the ministries of tourism and foreign affairs. Cairo had refused to receive an Israeli delegation to discuss border problems in the second half of August. AL-WAFD has learned that Cairo rejected an Israeli proposal for coordination between Egyptian and Israeli security forces along the common border to confront what the Israeli Foreign Ministry called the infiltration of weapons and fedayeen into the occupied territories through the Egyptian border.

Gorbachev Reportedly To Invite Mubarak

JN2109180289 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 20 Sep 89 pp 1, 20

[Text] Cairo—A Soviet diplomatic source in Cairo has said that Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will convey a new invitation from Soviet leader Gorbachev to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to visit Moscow during their meeting in New York at the end of this month. The source explained that Mubarak's visit to the Soviet Union will take place early next year. He attributed the delay in fixing the final date of the visit to Gorbachev's preoccupation with internal disturbances.

The source added that Mubarak and Gorbachev exchanged seven letters through diplomatic channels this year within the scope of Egyptian-Soviet consultations on all regional and international issues.

The source revealed a Soviet role in clearing the atmosphere among Egypt and Libya and Syria, indicating that Gorbachev urged presidents al-Qadhdhafi and al-Asad to improve relations with Egypt in order to bring about a unified Arab stance on the recent developments in the Palestine question.

The source expressed the Soviet Union's readiness to revive the Egyptian-Soviet friendship treaty, if Egypt wishes it—since Egypt was the party that annulled the treaty.

The source stated that military cooperation between Cairo and Moscow will be resumed on a large scale during the next few weeks. He said Egyptian-Soviet contacts are under way to exchange military attaches between the two states soon.

The source added that a Soviet economic delegation will visit Cairo in mid-December to hold talks with Egyptian officials on the trade protocol between the two countries for the next year. The protocol is expected to amount to 2.5 billion Egyptian pounds.

Egyptian-Soviet relations have witnessed major progress over the past 2 years following the Soviet Union's waiving of the interest on Egypt's due debts and rescheduling of debts under easy terms. The two countries' foreign ministers have also exchanged visits.

PRC Foreign Minister Leaves Cairo 21 Sep

NC2109171089 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1443 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Cairo, 21 Sep (MENA)—Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen has stressed his country's support for President Husni Mubarak's recent proposals. He noted that Egypt has now become an important venue for talks. He expressed his country's wishes for the success of the Egyptian efforts.

In a statement before leaving Cairo today, the Chinese minister expressed his belief that President Mubarak's initiative is not a solution in the true sense of the word, but, as President Mubarak pointed out, 10 points that contain questions for a debate on the Palestinian issue. The Chinese minister noted that these proposals will be a topic for a Chinese-Israeli dialogue in an attempt to find a just and reasonable solution through an international conference for peace.

The Chinese minister declared that Chinese President Yang Shangkun will visit Egypt in November to attend the inauguration of the international conference center, which the PRC built in Cairo as a symbol of Chinese-Egyptian friendship. The Chinese minister described relations between Egypt and PRC as excellent.

The PRC foreign minister also said that on Sunday he will visit Tunis, where he will meet with Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat and visit the PLO headquarters.

Paper Praises Results of Rabin's Cairo Visit

JN2109202489 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 20 Sep 89 p 6

[Editorial: "What Has Rabin's Visit Achieved?"]

[Text] Regardless of how Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's visit to Cairo, and the results of his talks with President Husni Mubarak on the Egyptian 10-points proposals on the elections to be held in the occupied Palestinian territories are perceived by various parties, there is no doubt that the visit represents a new development in the official Israeli position on the efforts to hasten a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. Such a peace can be attained only if the Palestinian problem is radically and definitively settled.

Rabin's visit and his discussion of the Egyptian ideas formulated in the 10 points have made it possible to learn the anticipated Israeli position, and the extent of

Tel Aviv's readiness to respond after the Palestinian side, as President Mubarak stated, has offered many concessions that no one had expected. It is Israel's turn to do the same thing because the cause of peace requires sacrifices and concessions from both sides of the problem, not from only one.

It is obvious from the news conference in which President Mubarak and the Israeli minister spoke, that the meeting between them has been fruitful and beneficial in many aspects. For the first time, Rabin announced Israel's acceptance of a meeting with the Palestinian side at Egypt's invitation, and he voiced great understanding and appreciation for the efforts exerted by President Mubarak, who expressed Cairo's readiness to host such a meeting.

As usual, the Egyptian president was explicit, frank, and understanding, affirming that his talks with Rabin sought to invigorate the dialogue on the talks that should be held between the Palestinians and the Israelis for the attainment of a peaceful setlement of the Palestinian problem. He also reaffirmed the need for the inclusion of Palestinians from outside the occupied territories in the Palestinian delegation to reach a specific program on how to hold elections in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

There is no doubt that the talks President Mubarak will hold with Shim'on Peres, Labor Party leader and finance minister, and with Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Arens in New York on the sidelines of the UN general Assembly session, will enhance the opportunities for a better understanding and will bring viewpoints closer together.

Libya

Letter Sent to UN on Israeli Missile Firing

LD2109191289 Tripoli JANA in English 1640 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih 21, [September] JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Engineer Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi the secretary of the People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation Bureau addressed a letter to both the secretary-general of the United Nations and to the chairman of the U.N. Security Council on the firing by the Zionist enemy of a medium-range missile capable of carrying nuclear warheads which fell into the Mediterranean Sea waters 400 kilometres north of Banghazi.

In the letter, he said:

I would like to point to what the media have been reporting on the Zionist enemy's firing on 14/9/1989 of a medium-range missile capable of carrying nuclear warheads which had fallen into the waters of the Mediterranean Sea 400 kilometers north of the city of Banghazi in great Jamahiriyah. In response to such escalation, the great Socialist Libyan Arab People's Jamahiriyah would like to assert the following:

This incident represents a serious and new escalation of tension in the Mediterranean Sea region, for apart from it endangers the security and the safety of air and sea navigation and all other economic activities in such sensitive region, it is considered as an undermining to the efforts of the states in the region, and in particular to the member states of the Non-Aligned Movement, aimed at enhancing security and cooperation in this region to turn it into a lagoon of peace.

What had the Zionist entity done comes within the framework of its nuclear capability, challenging by that the will of the international community represented in the related resolutions adopted by the U.N. General Assembly, the U.N. Security Council and the International Agency for Nuclear Energy, all of which denouncing the continued rejection by the Zionist entity to abide by not manufacturing nuclear weapons or acquiring them apart from its refusal to submit its nuclear plant to the inspection by the International Agency for Nuclear Energy.

Such irresponsible acts, which expose world peace and security to a real danger, would have not continued if it were not for the unlimited backing and support the Zionist entity from big states linked with it. By cooperation agreement in this field.

As a result of that, the great Socialist Libyan Arab People's Jamahiriyah would like to draw the attention of the international community once more to the grave consequences that may arise from such practices and calls upon all states to refrain from backing and supporting the Zionist entity urging them all to bear their responsibilities and commitments to preserving world peace and security.

Your excellency, please accept my highest appreciations.

The secretary of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation asked that this letter be considered as one of the documents of both the U.N. General Assembly and Security Council.

Al-Qadhdhafi Pledges Economic Aid to Tanzania

EA2009222489 Zanzibar Domestic Service in Swahili 1200 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli—The Libyan leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, has promised that his government will assist Zanzibar in its efforts to revive the economy.

Speaking with Dr Omar Ali Juma, the chief minister, who is visiting Libya, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said his country would do everything possible to assist Zanzibar so that it can face up to the difficult economic situation. During their talks in Tripoli, the chief minister conveyed an official message to Col Qadhdhafi from President Ali Hassan Mwinyi. The Libyan leader said that his country

valued the historical relations between the two countries. Therefore, Libya has every [word indistinct] to assist Zanzibar.

For his part, the chief minister praised the [word indistinct] of Libya in the struggle against racial injustices in South Africa, and the Israelis' forcible occupation of Arab lands. He said that Tanzania will always be on Libya's side in the struggle against racial discrimination, oppression, neo-colonialism, imperialism, and Zionism.

Yesterday, the chief minister, who is leading a four-man delegation on an official visit, visited the big steel factory at Misratah, about 210 km from Tripoli.

Chadian Information Minister Departs 21 Sep

LD2109195189 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1903 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, 21 Sep (JANA)—Chadian Information Minister Adoum Moussa Seif [name as received] and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli at noon today at the end of a 7-day visit to the great Jamahiriyah.

Meetings of the Libyan Arab-Chadian joint commission were held during the visit and ways of implementing the Algiers accord signed on 31 August were studied.

The two sides agreed that the joint commission should continue its work during the month of October in the Chadian capital, Ndjamena.

Jabir Receives Visiting Sudanese Delegation

LD2009203389 Tripoli JANA in English 1636 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih 20, [September] Jamahirihah News Agency—Staff Brigadier al-Tijani Adam Tahir, the member of the Revolutionary Command Council in sisterly Sudan and his accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli today on a visit to Great Jamahiriya.

Heading the welcoming committee was colonel Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, the secretary of the General Committee for Defence and the Armed People.

Taking part in welcoming staff Brigadier Tijani were some staff from the Sudanese embassy to Great Jamahiriya.

Mauritania

Ministry Cites 'Conditions' on Senegal Ties

AB2009211889 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Foreign Ministry statement read by announcer]

[Text] The Mauritania-Senegal conflict, which is entering its 6th month without any approach on finding a solution to it, continues to worry international public opinion, given the gravity of the situation that brought it about between the two countries of the subregion. The poor prospect of a solution, despite the numerous attempts made until now, lies entirely on the shoulders of the Senegalese party, which is persisting in multiplying the obstacles and hinderances that have concealed the true problems connected with this conflict. The Mauritanian Government, which has never failed to be forthcoming, desirous of informing public opinion, and to help in finding appropriate solutions to this problem, finds it necessary to reiterate the following points:

Beyond the deterioration of relations between the two states following the events of last April, it is relevant to know that it is the peoples of the two countries, notably the Mauritanian community in Senegal, that suffered most from the effects of the crisis. The losses suffered by the Mauritanian community of Senegal are incommensurable, both in loss of human lives and in loss of property. Thus, apart from the systematic pillage and confiscation of all its property, this community, which, as everybody is aware, was in charge of very nearly the whole of the commercial distribution sector, recorded thousands of deaths, while several dozen thousands of others are still being held hostage by the Senegalese authorities. The acute losses and uncountable maltreatments savagely perpetrated against its physical and moral integrity will be difficult to repair.

Secondly, from the premise of this unavoidable reality, the conditions for the restoration of relations between the two countries will necessarily require the settlement of the following issues: the return of Mauritanian citizens held hostage; restitution to their owners of properties confiscated by the Senegalese authorities; and the payment of adequate compensation to persons dispossessed of their goods. The Islamic Republic of Mauritania considers that any other attitude, particularly the raising of bogus problems like that of the border, derive from a manifest desire of hinderance and diversion.

'Normalization' Not Seen Soon With Senegal

AB2009152389 Paris AFP in French 2336 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Nouakchott, 19 Sep (AFP)—The crisis characterizing Senegal-Mauritania relations since May this year is too serious and too deep to allow a speedy normalization between the two neighbors, officials in Nouakchott believe. "The mediation efforts made by the OAU (first under the auspices of the Malian head of state, Genereal Moussa Traore, and then by his successor, Husni Mubarak of Egypt) have completely failed to make any headway in the matter", Mauritania's minister of interior, Colonel Djibril Ould Abdellahi, who led his country's delegation to the three Senegal-Mauritania meetings organized by the OAU since the beginning of the conflict, declared on Monday [18 September] to AFP.

Nouakchott has laid down three preconditions for the resumption of relations between the two countries, which are bound to live together on either side of the Senegal river, and declared its readiness to implement those measures in Mauritania. Each party must put an

end to radio and press attacks on the other. Persons and goods must be "secured", a point which refers particularly to belongings and cattle seized during the expulsions. Finally, victims of the conflict must be compensated, Mauritania's minister of information, Mohamed Lemine Ould Ahmed, told AFP on Monday, thinking especially of fortunes seized from Mauritanian traders at the time of their departure from Senegal. "We are prepared to avoid aggravating the perceptible tension among the people by refraining from publishing articles on events on Senegal. But Dakar must be prepared to do likewise, and we should not be told that the Senegalese independent or opposition press cannot abide by these instructions. This is a state to state matter", the minister added.

For the interior minister, the Senegalese-Mauritanian conflict was carefully "premeditated" in Dakar where, according to him, the press "poured oil on the fire" in the wake of the first incidents of 9 April in which herdsmen and farmers clashed at Diawara, a village on the Senegal River. "We cannot change what did happen, but Senegal did not have to fan the flames and make domestic political capital out of the events", the minister added.

Diplomatic sources in Nouakchott hold the view that, following the dramatic events which caused the death of several hundreds of people on both sides of the Senegal River separating the two countries "bound to live together", the wound is too deep to heal in the immediate future. Certainly, Mauritania has made some unilateral proposals, such as the return to their owners of luggage seized from expelled Senegalese, proposals which were confirmed to AFP by a Mauritanian official. But in the absence of any reaction on the subject from Senegal, diplomatic sources believe that the Mauritanian position has been toughened.

Total misunderstanding on both sides of the frontier led to the traumatic wounds left behind by massive expulsions executed under humiliating conditions. According to observers cultural, racial, and language differences also tend to favor a prolonged break between the two countries. A break in diplomatic ties, closure of the border, massive reinforcements along the river, a ban placed on airplanes from Dakar landing in Nouakchott: Everything now sets apart the two capitals which, at independence, had turned at the same time the page of French colonization, according to observers.

"We have nothing to prove. We have no lessons to receive from Senegal. All those who left Mauritania were of Senegalese nationality", Information Minister Mohamed Lemine Ould Ahmed declared on Monday to AFP, holding on, like all Nouakchott officials, to the view that all that went wrong in the Senegalese- Mauritanian conflict is the fault of the Senegalese.

Taya Says Problems With Senegal To 'Dissolve'

AB1509092489 London BBC World Service in English 1709 GMT 14 Sep 89

[From the Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Heads of state, diplomats, and OAU officials have been (?filing) to West Africa in the past couple of weeks to douse the flames of potential conflict between Mauritania and Senegal. The dispute and saber rattling date back to ethnic clashes between Arabs and blacks in April, leaving hundreds dead and tens of thousands of refugees. President Mubarak in his capacity as OAU chairman has done the rounds. The American assistant secretary of state, Kevin Callwood, has been in Nouakchott. So have Islamic leaders, and the Congolese president, Denis Sassou-Nguesso, had talks with President Ould Taya yesterday, and the Mauritanian leader is perhaps a little more optimistic about relations with Senegal. As Shey Bakai reports in this telex from Nouakchott:

[Begin studio announcer recording] President Ould Taya yesterday told reporters that although then situation is extremely dangerous, problems will dissolve with time. He was speaking yesterday at Nouakchott Airport when he was seeing off Congo's President Denis Sassou-Nguesso who had made a short stopover visit on his way home from Portugal. The two presidents had discussed the dispute between Mauritania and Senegal although the Congolese president said he was not acting as a mediator. The Mauritanian head of state said as Mauritania and Senegal are condemned to live together, they should be on good terms. Certainly, he said, dangerous things happened between our countries, but I hope and think an end will be found to our current difficulties.

Observers said this declaration marks a remarkable moderation of tone as President Ould Taya had not said anything along these lines since the conflict with Senegal erupted last April. However, Mauritania has recently been under heavy diplomatic pressure. This has included the visit from the United States of America's State Department official, Mr Kevin Callwood, who discussed the dispute during his meeting with President Ould Taya. In addition, the general secretary of the Islamic Conference has held discussions with Mauritanian officials and hopes also to meet President Diouf of Senegal. [end recording]

Congolese President Ends Visit, Comments

AB1409214589 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 14 Sep 89

[Text] Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso yesterday paid a visit to Nouakchott and said he is satisfied because he held talks with Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, the [Military Committee for National Salvation chairman and head of state, on relations between Mauritania and Congo. The two heads of state also discussed the conflict between Mauritania and Senegal, and in this regard, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso stated that he is

not on a mediation mission. I have come to hold discussions with my friend and brother, and to listen to him. Of course, I also expressed my views, because we believe that African peoples and their leaders should come together and strive to face the economic and financial challenges now confronting our continent. The Congolese president said: I talked with my brother and friend and appealed to him that the Mauritanian and Senegalese peoples and their leaders overcome quickly certain difficulties, in the interest of Africa. I am leaving satisfied with the talks I held with my friend, and I am confident of his wisdom and of the Mauritanian people.

Answering a question on Congo's position on the Mauritania-Senegal conflict, the Congolese president said Congo cannot be indifferent, and it is to prove this that we are here. I think it is interesting that with President Taya we can drop the status of president and talk as friends. Thus, all problems can be tackled with frankness and seriousness. I am sure that with President Taya we discussed the problems very frankly. African leaders have left no stone unturned to find a solution to this problem, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso concluded.

Cabinet Briefed on Mubarak Mediation Effort

AB1609195389 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Excerpts] The cabinet met on 14 September 1989 under the chairmanship of Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN]. [passage omitted] The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation reported on the international situation. The minister of interior, posts, and telecommunications presented a report on the domestic situation. [passage omitted]

The CMSN chairman informed the cabinet about the talks he held with his Excellency Mr Muhammad Husni Mubarak, president of the Arab Republic of Egypt and current OAU chairman, when the latter paid a brief visit to our country on 6 September 1989 as part of mediation mission aimed at resolving the Mauritanian-Senegal dispute. In this line, the cabinet reaffirmed that our country is completely and willing to cooperate with the OAU chairman in finding a lasting solution to this conflict.

He also briefed the cabinet about the talks he held with his Excellency President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, chairman of the Central Committee of the Congolese Labor Party and president of the republic, when the latter also paid a short friendly and information visit to our country on 13 September 1989. [passage omitted]

Libyan Banker Received by Ould Taya, Departs

AB1809160289 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Dr (Gez Haddad Zuleitani), chairman of the board of governors of the Libyan Arab Bank for Foreign Trade, special envoy of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, guide of the Libyan Revolution, left Nouakchott this morning after a 2-day visit to our country. During his visit, Dr (Zuleitani) was received in audience by Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN] and head of state. He was seen off by a high-level delegation led by Mr (Mohamed Adsina Ould Sid'Hayidah), adviser in the office of the CMSN chairman.

In a statement to Mauritanian Television, Dr (Zuleitani) said he had delivered a message to the head of state from his brother, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, guide of the Libyan Revolution. He stressed that the message is in line with the permanent consultation and contact aimed at strengthening bilateral cooperation. Dr (Zuleitani) said his visit also enabled him to preside over the extraordinary general assembly of the Libyan-Mauritanian Arab Bank for Foreign Trade and Development. During the meeting, it was decided to increase the capital of that institution to enable it to honor all its commitments and to achieve the objectives for which it was established. He also stated that he was received in audience by the minister of finance and the governor of the Central Bank of Mauritania, with whom he discussed cooperation betwen the two countries in the finance sector.

Further on Visit

AB1809123289 Paris AFP in French 2136 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Nouakchott, 17 Sep (AFP)—The Mauritanian head of state, Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, yesterday received a Libyan envoy, (Abd al al-Hafed Zuletayni), who delivered a message from the leader of the Libyan revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. (Mr Zuletayni) declared after the meeting that the message conveyed the greetings of al-Qadhdhafi to Mauritania. The envoy added that he discussed bilateral cooperation with the Mauritanian president. In the afternoon, the Libyan official visited the camps of Mauritanians repatriated from Senegal in the wake of bloody incidents between the two countries in April.

Meanwhile, a four-man French parliamentary delegation led by Mr Paul Chalet, president of the France-Mauritania Friendship Group, arrived in Nouakchott on Saturday evening to begin a few days' visit to Mauritania. The delegation was received yesteray by Interior Minister Djibril Ould Abdellahi, Finance Minister Mohamed Ould Nany, planning minister Mustapha Ould 'Unaydel-Rahman, and by major Mohamed Lemine Ould N'diayane, permanent secretary of Mauritania's ruling Military Committee for National Salvation, CMSN. The French parliamentarians visited the main camp for Mauritanians repatriated from Senegal (set up within the Nouakchott International Trade Fair and holding about 1,602 people) to acquaint themselves with living conditions in the camp.

Malian Delegation Arrives for Cooperation Meeting

AB1409214189 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 14 Sep 89

[Text] A Malian delegation, led by Mr Mamadou Cissoko, the minister of justice and keeper of the seals, arrived yesterday afternoon in Nouakchott. Mr Cissoko told the MAURITANIAN PRESS AGENCY that his visit is in line with relations of good neighborliness linking Mauritania to Mali. He also said that during his visit to Nouakchott, he will head the Malian delegation to the deliberations of the sixth session of the Mali-Mauritania permanent joint commission for cooperation which opens this afternoon at the headquarters of the government.

He said this commission forms the basic instrument for cooperation between the two sister countries and (?strives) to resolve common problems. Apart from the justice minister, the Malian delegation consists of Mr Mamadou Namoui Traore, director general for international cooperation and the technical advisers to the ministers of national education, finance, and commerce.

Signs Cooperation Accord

AB2109005189 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Excerpt] We recall that the sixth session of the Mauritania-Mali Permanent Joint Commission for Cooperation ended yesterday evening. For 1 full week, the participants made an in-depth study of the various aspects of this cooperation. At the end of the session, the parties signed an agreement on movement of livestock, a convention of administrative assistance in customs and excise matters, a protocol agreement on reciprocal facilities in transit matters, and a cooperation agreement on map-making. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Chad Minister Lauds Kuwait in Libya Settlement

AB2009212589 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] External Relations Minister Acheikh ibn Oumar today delivered to Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah a message from Chadian President El Hadj Hissien Habre. The Chadian foreign minister is in Kuwait for a visit that will last for several days. In a statement to the press, he said that the message he has come to deliver concerns the strengthening of bilateral relations and the situation in his country. Acheikh ibn Oumar paid homage to the Emir of Kuwait, the current chairman of the Organization of Islamic Conference, for his contribution to the efforts toward the settlement of the Chad-Libyan border dispute.

Leaves for Saudi Arabia

LD2109173289 Kuwait KUNA in English 1057 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 21 (KUNA)—Chadian Foreign Minister Acheikh ibn Oumar left here Thursday [21 September] for Saudi Arabia, concluding a three-day visit to the country.

While here, ibn Oumar conveyed a message to H.H. the amir from President Hissein Habre and held talks with Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad on bilateral relations and the situation following the peace agreement it signed with Libya recently.

Talks also covered possible contribution of the Kuwait fund for economic development to a number of projects in Chad.

PDRY

Al-Dali Reviews Post-Independence Measures

PM2109084889 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 18 Sep 89 p 3

[Report on interview with Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali; by Zaki Shihab in London; date unspecified]

[Text] People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali has announced that his country is in the process of revising all the measures taken since independence.

In an interview with AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT he said that the automatic copying of other states' experiments without taking account of the nature of Yemeni conditions is incorrect.

Dr al-Dali added that some of the measures in the economic, trade, agricultural, housing, and health fields were taken before present Yemeni condtions came about.

He also said: The crises which the PDRY has experienced—especially the January 1986 incidents—were simply the outcome of certain superficialities and shortcomings in society, the party, and the economic measures. So they must be examined and corrected.

The PDRY foreign minister emphasized his country's eagerness to achieve Yemeni unity through guaranteed, albeit slow, steps. He also affirmed that contacts are currently continuing between Aden and Washington with a view to restoring diplomatic relations between the two countries, which were severed in 1969.

Asked about the recent formation of a number of committees in the PDRY, the PDRY foreign minister told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: What the PDRY is experiencing—namely, activities at the popular, party, and parliamentary levels—is part of the tendency to speed up development and overcome all the obstacles and difficulties which our system has experienced since independence.

He added: The experience undergone by the PDRY since independence has positive as well as negative aspects. Our current assessments are an attempt to broaden and develop the positive aspects of this experience and to correct the decisions and the measures which we consider were erroneous at the time.

He went on: We can say that some of the measures taken in the economic, agricultural, and trade fields in particular, and also in the housing and health fields, preceded the present situation which we are experiencing, and we are in the process of correcting the errors made.

He added: From our experience it is clear that we tried to force the pace and take many steps, because of backwardness and because of our feeling of the need to speed up the development process. We tried to use certain Arab and socialist states' experiments, so they were copied. But it has become clear that some of them were incorrect. It has also become clear that the automatic copying of other countries' experiments without taking account of the nature of Yemeni conditions is incorrect as well. This is why we are in the process of revising all the measures taken in the past, learning lessons, and devising new measures to strengthen and boost the development process in the future.

He also pointed out that the current process of revising and correcting the mistakes internally and externally stems from the Yemeni Socialist Party program, endorsed long ago, and is not linked to individuals.

Asked whether the PDRY requested to join the Arab Cooperation Council [ACC], Dr 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali said: As we have already announced, we are not at present thinking about submitting a request to join the council. We have already pointed out that the council is

still in its foundation stage, and the appropriate thing is to give its members the chance to take the right steps.

He went on: Nevertheless, cooperation can be maintained with each state individually. Such cooperation will grow and develop. Besides, there is the Yemen Arab Republic [YAR], which is a member of the council. We believe that the present situation demands further discussions about unity between the two parts in order to achieve new steps toward Yemeni unity.

Al-Dali confirmed that his country's political leadership "attaches great importance, and is currently devoting more time, to the Yemeni unity issue."

With regard to the reasons for the slowness of unionist coordination between the two parts of Yemen, the PDRY foreign minister said: We do not want to lapse into what is forbidden through hasty measures. It is forbidden to fall into the mistakes of the experiments which preceded us and failed in the past. We want to restore the Yemeni people's unity, surmounting whatever could cause that unity to fail in the future. This is why the deeper the discussions go and the more difficult the debates become, the more we are likely to achieve Yemeni unity, regardless of the problems. It is easy to issue a statement and then to find ourselves facing new obstacles.

The Aden foreign minister went on to say: "We are very anxious to establish steps to unity, albeit somewhat slow."

He confirmed that all officials in Aden are working for unity.

He also said: We cannot ignore recent steps such as the agreement on citizens' movements between the two parts without barriers or obstacles and joint economic projects.

He added: We are approaching unity.

Cabinet Reviews Economic Development Plan

EA2009175589 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers held its regular meeting this morning under the chairmanship of Brother Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers. At the beginning of the meeting, the council hailed the advent of the 27th anniversary of the 26 September glorious revolution, which extirpated forever the rule of the oppressive iniquitous imamate [in northern Yemen] and opened before the Yemeni people the vast prospects of liberation from the nightmare of disease, ignorance, and poverty, and all forms of social backwardness and subjugation.

The Council expressed warm and hearty congratulations to all the masses of the Yemeni people throughout the Yemeni area on this great occasion, calling on them to redouble efforts on the basis of the principles and aims of the 26 September and 14 October glorious revolutions for the sake of achieving more national changes and gains and achieving Yemeni unity by peaceful and democratic means—the great national and human aim of all the sons of the Yemeni homeland and the source of their subsequent happiness and progress.

The Council of Ministers discussed a number of issues and reports incorporated in its agenda, among them an evaluatory report of the plan of the third year, 1988, of the third 5-year plan for economic and social development for the years 1986-1990.

In the light of its detailed discussion, the Council approved the report aqd entrusted the Central Board of Statistics and the Ministry of Planning with the task of unifying the basic methods for evaluating each sector and correcting the indices noted with regard to the sector of energy and minerals. It also entrusted the head of the Central Board of Statistics with the task of presenting only the first paper of the evaluation of the annual plan, in view of the contents of statements in a second paper, beginning from the year 1990.

The Council also entrusted the director general of the Secretariat of the Council of Ministers with the task of submitting the report to the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council for ratification. [passage omitted]

In an exclusive statement to a reporter from ANA, following the conclusion of the council's discussions and its evaluation of the plan of the third year, 1988, of the third 5-year plan for the years 1986-1990, a responsible source in the Central Board of Statistics explained that the evaluatory report presented to the meeting comprised a number of important economic indices. It indicated a rise in the gross domestic product, at a cost rate from 373.5 million dinars in 1987 to 374.8 million dinars in 1988 by fixed prices, and the rise of the gross domestic product at the market rate, from 433.8 million dinars in 1987 to 435.7 million dinars in 1988 by fixed prices.

He added: The report explained the rise in national income from 236.1 million dinars in 1987 to 238.1 million dinars in 1988, as well as the reduction in average per capital income from 115 dinars in 1987 to 113 dinars in 1988 at an average negative growth rate of 1.7 percent.

The responsible source said that the actual investment for 1988 amounted to 165.4 million dinars out of an investment allocation for the year of 354.9 million dinars—an implementation percentage rate of 64.9 percent, which comprised 345 projects throughout the Republic, of which there were 143 projects which had been carried over and 102 new projects whose expenditure had been financed from local sources at a percentage rate of 36.6 percent and external sources at a percentage rate of 63.4 percent. The accomplishment percentage amounted to 75.5 percent and 90 percent [as heard] of local and external respectively. The source attributed the reasons for the decline in the level of accomplishment in

implementing the investment plan to the delay in receiving materials, equipment, and invoices concerning some projects, the weakness of construction capabilities, the decline in work production by local establishments in implementing some projects, the rise of costs in the prices of contracts, the costs of construction work and the price of machinery and equipment from the approved allocations, and a number of other reasons.

Saudi Envoy Brings Fahd Message, Departs

EA2009185489 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, the Saudi minister of higher education and personal envoy of King Fahd bin Abd al-Aziz, servant of the Two Holy Mosques and king of Saudi Arabia, left Aden this evening after a short visit to our country, during which he handed a written message to Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, from his brother, King Fahd. It concerns bilateral relations. He was seen off by Dr Salim Ba Silm, minister of education.

Saudi Arabia

Shiites Confess to 10 July Mecca Bombings

LD2209045889

[Editorial report] Riyadh Television Service in Arabic at 1855 GMT on 21 September broadcasts a 3-hour, 15-minute announcer-read report which features the confessions by members of the group of Shiite Muslims held responsible for the 10 July bombing of the Holy Mosque in Mecca, which killed 1 person and injured 16. Each of the perpetrators confesses to his involvement, discussing his role and responsibility in the criminal act.

Mansur Hasan 'Abdullah al-Mihaymid, a Kuwaiti school teacher and "chief of the group responsible" is the first to confess. Al- Mihaymid says that he is a Shiite Muslim: "My role in the operation was one of general supervisor. The idea started in Kuwait when when I was summoned by Muhammad Baqir al-Muhri, leader of the group in Kuwait, who told me that in order to realize the desire of officials of the Iranian Government he would ask me to set up a cell to carry out explosions in Mecca in order to undermine security in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to prove that it was not capable of administering pilgrimage affairs, and to terrorize pilgrims."

Al-Mihaymid names the people who participated in the cell he set up: 'Ali 'Abdullah Husayn Kazim, 'Abd-al-Aziz Husayn 'Ali Muhamad Shams, 'Abd-al-Wahab Husayn 'Ali Barun, Hani Habib Tahir al-Misri, 'Adil Muhammad Khalifah Bahman, Hasan 'Abd-al-Jalil Husayn al- Husayni, 'Abd al-Husayn Karam Dawish Nasir, Isma'il Ja'far Ghulum Ja'far, 'Abdullah Asad 'Abdullah 'Ali Rida, Salih 'Abd-al-Rasul Yasin Hajiyah, Hamad 'Abdullah Ahmad Abbas Dishti, Maytham 'Abbas 'Abbas Ghulum Husayn, Sayid Ahmad Sayid 'Ali Sayid Abbas 'Abd-al-Rasul, Yusuf 'Abdullah Ghulum Ibn Hasan, 'Ali Ahmad 'Abbas Baqir, Yahya Qanbar 'Ali al Ja'far, Muhammad 'Abbas Baqir, Mahmud 'Abdullah Husayn Kazim, and Husayn Habib 'Abbas Husayn.

"We held meetings in Kuwait to acquaint them with the operation; where it would take place and the specific place for it," says al-Mihaymid. "We were asked to get in touch with two Iranians who claimed that they were working at the Iranian Embassy—they were Sadiq 'Ali Reza and Muhammad Reza Ghulam—on the assumption that they were going to provide us with explosives." He says the Iranians first trained them theoretically, then on the practical training of transporting and assembling the materials.

On 22 June 1989, says al-Mihaymid, he went to the Iranian Embassy with 'Abd al-Wahab Husayn 'Ali Barun and Abd al-Aziz Husayn Ali Muhammad Shams to receive the explosives, which they hid under the driver's seat.

'Ali Abdullah Husayn Kazim, a 22-year-old Kuwaiti student, confesses next. He says he was approached to join the organization called the Followers of the Line of the Imam. He says he was convinced and joined and attended meetings to prepare for the Mecca explosions. He describes the transport of explosives from the Iranian Embassy in Kuwait to Medina, and on to Mecca. On D-day at 0700 the groups moved to put the explosives in the places chosen near the Mosque. He admits having placed a charge near the Mosque, and says that only after the arrest did they realize the atrocity of their acts. He says the group members regret what happened. He urges youths not to follow stray and deceitful ideas. He hopes that the tragedy will not recur. He admits having been recruited to the service of the Iranian consulate in Kuwait.

'Abd al-Aziz Husayn 'Ali Muhammad Shams confesses next. He is a 20-year-old Kuwaiti student of Saudi origin, and was recruited 2 years ago to join the organization of the Followers of the Line of the Imam, a branch of Hezbollah. He says he was involved in smuggling explosive charges to Saudi Arabia. An Iranian, Sadiq 'Ali Reda, was to give him money for the operation. He was also recruited to take part in the operation of the explosives in Mecca to serve the interests of Iran. He was present in the meetings in Medina and Mecca, and he assisted in the operation that took place near the Mosque in Mecca. He says the group was happy just after fulfilling the operation, looking forward to returning to Kuwait to receive the financial gains promised them, but after the arrest, he was sad and regretted his hideous crime, harmful to Islam and Muslims. He also points to metal pieces on a table admitting having seen them before and having handled them himself.

Thirteen more Shiites make confession very similar to the ones described above. All are Kuwaiti citizens, most aged between 20 and 30 years, most saying they regret their actions.

Shamir Assails Mubarak's 10-Point Plan

TA2109122889 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir said a short while ago that he agrees with President Mubarak's statement that his 10-point plan cannot serve as a substitute for the Israeli peace initiative. The prime minister was speaking at a meeting with high school students in Tel Aviv. He said that the Egyptian 10 points constitute preliminary conditions and are therefore unacceptable to us. Shamir added that Israel wants to conduct sincere negotiations with Palestinians, but only with those who have despaired of terror, violence, and the PLO.

On another matter, Shamir promised that Israel will do all in its power to help the Pollards, within the bounds of its legal constraints.

Mubarak 'Merely Joking'

TA2109141889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says that he does not believe President Mubarak expects an answer from the people of Israel. He expects an answer from the Cabinet. Unlike Egypt, Israel is a democratic country where the people trust the government. If this were not the case, it would not have survived. Engaging in polemics with Mubarak is pointless. He was merely joking; all in all we know what he wants, said the prime minister.

Mr Shamir was talking with our correspondent during a tour of Yafo and was commenting on Mubarak's call to the people of Israel to exert their influence on the Cabinet to make it accept his plan.

Calls Points 'Preconditions'

TA2109161889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says that the 10 points offered by Mubarak are in fact preconditions for negotiations, to which he objects. He claimed that he does not believe Mubarak expects an answer from the Israeli public, but rather from its government. Israel is not like Egypt. Israel is a democracy, and the people have faith in the government. There is no point in arguing with Mubarak; he was merely joking, and all in all we know what he wants, said the prime minister.

Mr Shamir again emphasized that Israel adheres to its peace initiative and objects to the principle of territories for peace or the inclusion of East Jerusalem residents in elections in the territories. He also said that Israel will organize an international solidarity conference in which non-Jews from all over the world will also participate.

Opposes PLO Participation

TA2109182989 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Shlomo Bakhar during a tour of Tel Aviv-Yafo on 21 September—videorecorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Shamir] We are a democratic country, where if the people's trust were absent, the government would not have remained intact. In that, we differ from Egypt.

[Bakhar] Do you not regard this appeal by President Mubarak to the Israeli people as intervention in internal state affairs?

[Shamir] No, I would not go as far as that. Furthermore, I do not believe that it is worthwhile engaging in polemics with him. After all, he did not mean it seriously; he was merely joking, by and large, in his comments. We have a pretty good idea of what he wants.

[Bakhar] Mr Prime Minister, even before the Inner Cabinet convenes in 2 or 3 weeks, have you thought about a possible formula for a Palestinian delegation that will be acceptable to you?

[Shamir] Look, in general we are interested in meeting with Palestinians, but not exactly with those who will be sent and instructed by the PLO, because then it will not be negotiations on true peace. So this is the problem.

[Bakhar] And since you are, naturally, well acquainted with the positions of the Alignment—primarily those of its leaders, Ministers Rabin and Peres, who support the inclusion of expatriates in the delegation—do you actually anticipate a clash before the Inner Cabinet session?

[Shamir] Look, it was I who proposed this time-out. I hope this break will be beneficial. So let's not rush things.

[Bakhar] And you propose that Israel adhere to its plan with no additions, ideas, or questions?

[Shamir] As a rule, Israel should insist on its plan. After all, there is a purpose to that plan and it has an underlying philosophy. Of course, it is possible to listen to or renew ideas. But the basis should be honored.

Netanyahu Says Plan Has 'Disturbing' Elements

TA2109114189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has warned that if Israel accepted President Mubarak's conditions for a meeting with the Palestinian delegation, the negotiations would break down immediately. Netanyahu was reacting to remarks made by Mubarak in his interview with Arab affairs reporters from the Israeli media.

[Begin recording] [Netanyahu] Well, first of all, I would hope that Prime Minister Shamir would be one day

given equal time on Egyptian media and such ready access as the president of Egypt was given on Israeli media.

Specifically on the proposal of President Mubarak: We welcome any effort to help put forward our initiative, but I must say that some of the matters raised by President Mubarak are very disturbing, because they include items that are not merely details of the initiative, but in fact go contrary to the very spirit behind the whole idea; namely, the insistence on determining final status right now, and in fact demanding the willingness of Israel to withdraw from the territories, which means today only one thing—it means a PLO state; the demand for an end to the settlements; and the demand to include de facto PLO participation. All of these things, of course, would torpedo our initiative and not put it forward.

[Katzenell] Could not Israel say to President Mubarak: We do not accept these conditions of yours. We regard them as preconditions, but we are prepared to meet with the Palestinian delegation without accepting, without voicing our acceptance to these conditions?

[Netanyahu] We have said all along that we are prepared to talk to Palestinian Arabs. The question here is: Whom are we going to talk to and what are we going to talk about? What we are going to talk about is very clear. We are prepared to negotiate on an interim settlement, not on the final status, because that would exclude any possibility of negotiations. We know there is no agreement on this matter among the various parties. So that is a breaker; that is not a facilitator of negotiations.

On the question of whom, we are not going to negotiate with the PLO—not with the PLO directly, not with any members of the PLO, not with people appointed by the PLO. [end recording]

Peres Says Mubarak's Plan Provides 'Opportunity'

TA2109184189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says Israel should not reject the Egyptian plan out of hand, as this is the best opportunity to make progress toward peace since the London accord. Addressing leaders of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations in New York, Peres said it is important to examine Mubarak's 10-point plan while there is no obligation to accept it in its entirety. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami asked the vice prime minister whether he was prepared to continue in a state of affairs in which the prime minister opposed the Egyptian plan and he supported it.

[Begin recording] [Peres] Mr Shamir may express his opinion, while we will present ours. We will try to persuade each other.

The main problem as I see it now is the peace process, not the process of dissolving the government. A very serious opportunity has cropped up which we must not miss. After all, no one is asking us to accept the Egyptian 10 points. All it amounts to is that we were informed that this would be the position of the Palestinian delegation.

[Ben-'Ami] How far would you be prepared to go, and how long would you be ready to remain in the Cabinet, if the differences of opinion as they are today continue?

[Peres] First of all, I have no intention of just sitting in the Cabinet. What I plan to do is to help the Cabinet march forward toward peace. Once again, the central and sole item currently on the agenda is the promotion of the peace process.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Peres, you are scheduled to meet President Mubarak some time next week. In effect this would seem like reinventing the wheel, as I understand that you and the president actually see eye to eye. How will you attempt to move the process forward, as you said just now?

[Peres] First of all, I am not sure whether the president and I see eye to eye. What I will state is that we are all united around the peace initiative, but we must decide how to handle the Arab reaction to it. There are other issues I will discuss with the president.

[Ben-'Ami] Thank you very much. [end recording]

Government 'Tensions' Over Mubarak Plan Rise

TA2209092489 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Sep 89 pp 1, 11

[Report by Dan Petreanu and Mikhal Yudelman]

[Excerpts] Tensions within the national unity government escalated yesterday when Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin declared his unequivocal support for Egyptian proposals to launch Israeli-Palestinian talks, despite fierce opposition by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

Addressing members of the Labour Party Central Committee, Rabin ridiculed the Likud's opposition to President Mubarak's plan, which he termed "a great and important step" for furthering the peace process. He said the Palestinians should not be expected to "drop to their knees" and accept the Israeli diplomatic initiative as it was.

Neither Rabin nor Shamir has publicly addressed the increasing likelihood of a coalition split; however, Rabin seemed to be hinting at the possibility of early elections when he told Labour Party colleagues: "We must convince the Israeli people of the value of the proposals."

Sources in the Prime Minister's Office told THE JERUSALEM POST Rabin's break with Shamir has exacerbated "a very grave situation." Shamir, they said, had no intention of backing down from his unyielding opposition to the Mubarak proposals. As for the possibility that this would bring down the unity government, the sources

said: "Shamir has more important matters on his mind than continued partnership with a man like Rabin."

[Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 22 September on page 1 carries a related report by Gid'on Alon and Ilan Shehori, adding that the staff of the Prime Minister's Office has assessed that "there is nothing new" in the Mubarak message to Shamir, deliverd through Ambassador Basyuni 2 days ago. These sources added that "the message reiterates the Egyptian view that a meeting between an Israeli and a Palestinian delegation for preliminary deliberations on elections in the territories is of prime importance."]

Likud leaders noted yesterday that the inner cabinet vote on the proposals—which could be held as early as two weeks from now, after Finance Minister Shimon Peres and Foreign Minister Moshe Arens have returned from the U.S.—is likely to result in a tie. In that case, the source said, "the only binding decision will be the Israeli diplomatic initiative itself," and it will be up to Labour to decide whether to leave the government.

Labour's Moshe Shahal told THE POST his party viewed the decision on the Mubarak proposals as "without question, the moment of truth." He added that the best hope for a breakthrough in the stalemate would come if the U.S. decided to pressure the Likud to agree to terms which, according to Shahal, "are in no way different from what the Likud itself agreed to in the Camp David Accords." Shahal was referring to a clause permitting Palestinians from outside the territories to participate in negotiations with Israel. [passage omitted]

Other party leaders agreed yesterday that, for the time being, Labour would explore all avenues for considering the Egyptian proposals in continued partnership with the Likud. The party's inclination to cause a full-fledged crisis may have been discouraged by clear indications from the religious parties that they would not lend a hand to the formation of a narrow Labour-led government. During the past several days, emissaries from SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] and the National Religious Party [NRP] have devoted considerable effort to mediating between Labour and the Likud.

The NRP's Religious Affairs Minister, Zvulun Hammer, went so far as to propose to the Likud that the idea of Cairo talks be accepted if Palestinian negotiators agreed to sign a document renouncing terror and the PLO charter. The proposal, however, encountered opposition from Hammer's party colleague, Minister-without-Portfolio Avner Sciaki—and did not meet with the approval of the Likud.

Rabin Lauds Mubarak's 'Moderate' Position

TA2109175489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Mubarak's initiative, his 10-point plan, continues to lead to verbal clashes and a guarded exchange of speeches in Israel. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says there is a chance to expand peace. In making that move, it is important to function as a unity government.

In a political address before members of the Labor Party Central Committee, Minister Rabin defended President Mubarak, who, as Rabin terms it, leads the largest Arab state in a moderate way. This is a country which signed a peace treaty with us and which is interested in broadening the peace process to include more than just Israeli-Egyptian peace, said Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. Furthermore, he said, I am not offering deliberations with the PLO, but with a delegation of Palestinians and deportees who are also residents of the territories. Our party affairs correspondent Shlomo Raz reports:

[Begin recording] [Raz] Yitzhaq Rabin believes it is of utmost importance that the discussion of the matter focus more on the political aspect and less on the existence of the unity government. Both he and party Secretary General Harish before him emphasized the need to promote the political process within the framework of the incumbent government. The Labor Party is not interested in generating a government crisis.

Rabin analyzed the political situation surrrounding the 10 points after returning from Egypt. He believes the main problem now is not the permanent solution, but how to enter negotiations with the Palestinians so that an authentic leadership can be found.

[Rabin] I understand our desire to guard our maneuvering space as far as Israel's positions are concerned once we get to negotiations on the permanent solution. But, by the same token, I also understand the concern shown by parts of the Arab world that someone has only a transitional period for a temporary solution in mind, without guaranteeing that the process would make it possible to reach a permanent solution as well.

[Raz] The defense minister lauded President Mubarak. He is no disciple of Berl [Katzenelson] or of Jabotinsky. Mubarak is the leader of the largest Arab country, a country which signed a peace treaty with us about 10 years ago.

[Rabin] I believe that in the past 8 years in particular, President Mubarak managed to prove to the Arab world specifically, but also to the entire world in general, that it is possible to return, and that Egypt can stand its own ground and attain a respectable place in the Arab and African world without giving up the peace agreement or the Israeli Embassy in Cairo and the fact that the Israeli flag flies over that city.

[Raz] Mubarak's opinions are those of a major Arab country interested in broadening the peace process beyond the Israeli-Egyptian peace.

Yitzhaq Rabin was notably cynical when reacting to the Likud's comment that the Alignment is offering negotiations with the PLO. This is being uttered by those who in 1981 were the ones who reached an agreement with the PLO.

[Rabin] We are not suggesting negotiations with the PLO as an organization; we are prepared to engage in a dialogue with a Palestinian delegation that will be composed by Egypt and will obtain our consent—a delegation consisting of 70 to 80, excuse me, 100 percent, of residents of the territories. It should be borne in mind that even if one or two deportees are included, they, too, are inhabitants of the territories. Deportees were allowed to return to the territories by Likud defense ministers, too, although I am not talking about that.

[Raz] That is why no decision will be made before Peres and Arens return from abroad. Yitzhaq Rabin called for persuading people that as a unity government we will embark on a political process, and said he does not wish to speculate on what will happen if this not the case. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic at 1730 GMT on 21 September also reports on Rabin's address to the Labor Party forum, bringing the conclusion of his remarks in Hebrew, with Arabic subtitles. Rabin says: "Let us hope we will be able to persuade our partners in the Cabinet and the Israeli public to give a chance to the consummation of the opportunity to advance the government's peace initiative."]

Backs Land-for-Peace Issue

TA2109180789 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said he agrees to a Palestinian delegation set up by the Egyptians that will include Palestinian deportees, since they are also residents of the territories. Rabin said that the Labor Party supports the principle, espoused by the Egyptians, of land for peace. Here is our correspondent Dov Gilhar:

[Begin recording] [Gilhar] One could discern many similarities between Defense Minister's Yitzhaq Rabin's speech tonight and President Mubarak's statements on "Moqed" last night. According to Rabin, the Labor Party, just like Mubarak, supports the principle of land for peace.

[Rabin] We, as an independent state, adhere to our peace initiative. But not on the condition that we come to the Palestinians in the territories and tell them that until they accept 100 percent of our peace initiative, according to our understanding, that there is nothing to talk about. As long as the discussions are based on the Palestinian side's acceptance in principle of elections, and of the necessity of moving toward the final solution in two stages, we can negotiate on all the rest. If it remains clear that one cannot include in the components of the permanent solution anything in addition to what is acceptable to the Israeli Government, then we have no problem here in the Labor Party with the principle of territories for peace.

[Gilhar] Rabin said that we must first of all launch negotiations. He supports the composition of a Palestinian delegation proposed by President Mubarak, in coordination with Israel, and asserts that as far as he is concerned, deportees are eligible for participation in such a delegation, as they, too, are residents of the territories. Israel, he said, will come to the talks with its initiative. Let the Palestinians come with the 10 points.

[Rabin] Let the Palestinians come with the 10 points as their position, at least as a minimum starting point. Let us not start arguing over all the points not included there.

[Gilhar] Rabin said that the core of the process must be negotiations in two stages, for an interim accord and a permanent solution based upon UN Resolutions 242 and 338. [end recording]

Caucus: Rabin Remarks Encourage 'Extremism'

TA2209061089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] The coalition infighting has intensified again following Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's statement yesterday at the Labor Party Bureau meeting in support of the Mubarak 10 points. In a statement, the Likud caucus in the Knesset claims that Rabin's backing of the Egyptian president's actions only encourages extremism and terrorism against Israel. Acting caucus Chairman Yehoshu'a Matza called on the defense minister to deal with stopping the intifadah [uprising], saying the uprising has picked up recently due to Rabin's attempts to undermine the Israeli peace initiative.

Netanyahu Briefs Shamir on U.S. Contacts With PLO

TA1809182989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu says he has been told that Washington is working to convince the PLO to allow residents of the territories to negotiate with Israel. Netanyahu was briefing Prime Minister Shamir on his talks with Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly. Kelly told Netanyahu that Israel would not be able to hold talks with residents of the territories without the involvement of the PLO in Tunis. Netanyahu said he was impressed by American support for Israel's peace initiative and willingness to help Israel find a negotiating partner. He added that State Department officials say the United States has not officially recognized Egypt's 10-point plan.

Beilin: Debate No Cause for Government Breakup

TA2109123089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Deputy Minister Yosi Beilin has said that the government should continue to exist and that the debate on procedural aspects of the negotiations with the Palestinians should not be the cause for its breakup. If, however, it eventually becomes apparent that there is no

way but to disband the government, he would recommend that new elections or even a plebiscite be held. Mr Beilin believes that the Israeli people would support those who present a practical solution and guarantee the continuation of the peace process.

Al-Husayni: PLO Has 'Final Word' on Delegation

TA1909060789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Palestinians in the territories say they are optimistic about developments in Cairo, and they stand by the Egyptian proposal that any Palestinian delegation to peace talks must include people from both inside and outside the territories. Shlomo Berger reports:

[Begin recording] [Berger] Palestinian activist Faysal al-Husayni says the final word on a Palestinian delegation is not with Egypt.

[Al-Husayni] They can talk with the PLO, they can discuss, they can advise. But I believe, in the end, the decision is the PLO decision.

[Berger] And what of the composition of the Palestinian delegation?

[Al-Husayni] The Palestinians are in the territories and outside the territories, so it must be from both, from all Palestinians, from inside and from outside as well. [passage omitted]

[Berger] Both Ilyas Frayj and al-Husayni said the Palestinians are ready to accept the Israeli proposal of a two-staged settlement. But, they said, Israel's offer of autonomy as an interim solution would be decided during negotiations. [end recording]

Group Within HAMAS Said To Favor Elections

JN2109134089 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1030 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The Saudi newspaper AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT says the group inside HAMAS [Islamic Resistance Movement] that favors the movement's participation in elections in the territories, if elections are held, has gained strength. The newspaper also says that there are those in the Muslim Brotherhood outside the territories who also support HAMAS' participation. The paper adds that HAMAS is now working to broaden its organization and information base, especially among the younger generation in the West Bank. HAMAS, the paper continues, is also raising money in the Arab states with a view to starting an election fund.

PLO Said To Agree on UN Auspices for Talks

TA2109144889 Jerusalem AL-TALI'AH in Arabic 21 Sep 89 p 1

[Text] Our correspondent has learned that the PLO has neither agreed on the 10 points put forward by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak nor on the formation of a delegation from the occupied territories to engage in dialogue on these points.

Informed sources have said that the PLO agrees in principle on opening a dialogue in Egypt under UN auspices and with a delegation appointed by the PLO that would include persons from inside and outside.

These sources added that the PLO agrees on participating in a dialogue that would not be restricted either to discussion of the Shamir plan or the Egyptian plan, but would be open so that each delegation would be able to put forward its position freely and without preconditions.

These sources have learned that the PLO is asking for guarantees that preparations for convening an international conference would begin immediately after the start of the dialogue.

These sources expect that the issue of guarantees will be discussed at the forthcoming meeting between the U.S. ambassador in Tunis and a PLO delegation. The sources have also learned that the issue of guarantees will be discussed during the next meeting, on 22 September, between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

According to these sources, the PLO attaches great importance to obtaining guarantees for convening the international conference, and considers the existence of these guarantees as a basic condition for opening a dialogue in Cairo.

Gazans to Discuss 10-Point Plan in Egypt

TA2109133489 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 21 Sep 89 p 4

[Report by Mikhal Qedem]

[Text] The Civil Administration yesterday authorized the departure to Egypt of a delegation of senior Palestinian notables from the Gaza Strip to discuss Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's peace initiative. Brigadier General Arye Ramot, head of the Civil Administration in the Gaza Strip, met attorney Fayiz Abu-Rahmah yesterday at the Civil Administration and informed him of the authorities' approval.

Ramot also met with As'ad al-Saftawi, a prominent leader in the Gaza Strip, who has formulated his own peace plan. During the two meetings political issues were discussed, including Mubarak's 10-point plan, as well as affairs pertaining to daily life in the Gaza Strip.

Besides Abu-Rahmah, those in the delegation slated to go to Cairo will include Sulayman al-Astal, mayor of Khan Yunus; Ahmad al-Shawwa, son of the former mayor of Gaza; Shaykh Muhammad 'Awad, secretary of the Islamic College; and Raja' Murtaji, who has not yet received Civil Administration permission to leave. The members of the delegation are now waiting for final confirmation, and for an invitation by Muhammad

Basyuni, Egyptian ambassador to Israel, with whom they have consulted on the matter.

Abu-Rahmah yesterday stated that the Mubarak plan is "a promising beginning to successful negotiations between Israel and the Palestinian people." He told Ramot that the Egyptian initiative may move the political situation out of its paralysis. Abu-Rahmah pointed out that Brig Gen Ramot told him that "Shamir is determined to adhere to his plan and does not want any changes caused by the Mubarak initiative."

Abu-Rahmah claimed that they discussed the problems of Arab workers from the Gaza Strip, who cannot set out for work in Israel ever since the use of magnetic identity cards went into effect because their cards have been confiscated by the Unified National Command of the Uprising. He added that the head of the Civil Administration warned him against any attempt to boycott work in Israel, explaining that such a step may increase unemployment and further erode the poor economic situation.

Jewish Council Wants End to Unity Government

TA1909085789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Gush Emunim; leaders of the Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza; and Knesset members [MK's] from the front for Greater Israel called on the prime minister to dissolve the unity government and stop the political process that began with the Mubarak-Rabin meeting. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that this was decided at an emergency session yesterday evening in Jerusalem, with the participation of Minister Sciaki; MK's Ge'ula Kohen, Mikha'el Eytan, and Tzahi Hanegbi; the leaders of Gush Emunim; and the heads of the Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. Proposals were raised to act within the Likud Central Committee and to lobby among right-wing MK's to bring about a halt to the political process.

Arens, Peres 'Speaking in Two Voices' in U.S.

TA2209064489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] The Israeli Government is speaking in two voices from coast-to-coast in the United States. Foreign Minister Moshe Arens is espousing one version in Los Angeles, while Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres is retorting in New York.

Foreign Minister Arens said that what is wrong with the Mubarak initiative is the attempt to force Israel to negotiate with the PLO, which is against its stated policy. This is the reason for Arens' opposition to Mubarak's 10-point plan. In an interview with our correspondent in the United States, 'Oded Ben-'Ami, the foreign minister said that he would like to remind the Egyptian president that the condition specified in the Israeli initiative—a meeting between Israeli Prime Minister Shamir and Egyptian President Mubarak—has not been fulfilled.

[Begin recording] [Arens] Our initiative states that elections will be held. The residents are those who will choose the representatives with whom we will sit and negotiate, and we will sit and talk with whomever is elected. Therefore, there is no reason, need, or purpose in sitting down before anything begins, and especially not with a delegation empowered by the PLO—and when it comes down to it, that is what we are talking about. I will certainly be happy to address the issue and explain to you why this decision by the Cabinet was the correct decision. I will also be happy to explain why the PLO is the obstacle to furthering the peace process in the region and the obstacle to holding free and democratic elections in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. But every member of the Cabinet is committed to these decisions. If one cannot adhere to these decisions, if one does not accept them, then he has only one choice: to leave the government.

[Ben-'Ami] Shim'on Peres says that because the Cabinet has not rejected President Mubarak's 10-point plan, there is nothing prohibiting expressions of support for it.

[Arens] But the Cabinet categorically ruled against any negotiations with the PLO. The Israeli Government's peace initiative states that there will be no parley with the PLO. And if any suggestion is put to the Cabinet that we sit and talk with the PLO, then each Cabinet minister is obligated to reject this proposal. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0500 GMT on 22 September adds that "Arens criticized Finance Minister Shim'on Peres for meeting with senior administration officials and colleagues from around the world when the foreign minister is also in the United States and responsible for those matters. Arens asked whether Peres has finished solving all of Israel's economic problems."]

And in New York, our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami heard Shim'on Peres' response to Arens' statements.

[Begin recording] [Peres, broadcast in progress] ...I am sure that Mr Arens could not oppose President Mubarak's initiative, because the Cabinet has made no decision on the matter. I assume that he placed this restraint on himself. Why should we go around in circles? It is a known fact that the government has two opinions. We have not yet decided. What we have already agreed upon is the Israeli peace initiative, and there is a decision on this. As for the other matters, I assume that just as Mr Shamir and Mr Arens express their opinions, so will others; and this is only natural and normal.

[Ben-'Ami] So far, Shim'on Peres is in New York and appears quite satisfied. Today he received an invitation to visit the Soviet Union. The meeting between Finance Minister Shim'on Peres and the president of the Soviet Peace Committee, a supposedly unofficial organization, accompanied by four senior economic ministers

revolved around commercial possibilities between the two countries. Shim'on Peres explained Israel's advantages in agriculture, medicine, and electronics. The Soviets expressed interest in signing barter agreements.

Regarding the political sphere. Genrikh Borovik, the head of the Soviet delegation, said that the meeting addressed, very generally, the need for peace throughout the world, especially for all peoples in the Middle East. And to everyone's surprise, Borovik announced that Shim'on Peres is invited to Moscow. Peres was surprised to receive this invitation. The Soviets asked Peres whether he would come as early as October, and the vice premier replied that he intends to spend the holidays in Israel.

[Peres] Look, I always think it is better to report after the act than before anything happens. We indeed received an invitation, and I think this is an opening for economic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union. I am sure that the State of Israel is interested in such relations, and this is a beginning.

[Ben-'Ami] In what spheres can we trade with the Soviet Union?

[Peres] I think that what interests Israel, and perhaps also them, are the domains of agriculture, health, aviation, tourism. There is quite enough to do together.

[Ben-'Ami] After cultural relations have been more or less resumed—the Bolshoi is dancing on Israeli stages—and after there is an Israeli consular delegation in Moscow and a Soviet delegation in Israel, can we now, especially in conjunction with your visit, shortly anticipate the opening of an Israeli Embassy in Moscow?

[Peres] I think this side of things is not the most pressing one right now. It is better to imbue our relations with economic, cultural, and Jewish content; the rest will follow. [end recording]

Genrikh Borovik Invites Peres To Visit USSR

TA2109211189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has been invited to visit the Soviet Union. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the invitation was extended by Politburo member Genrikh Borovik, who is president of the Soviet Peace Committee.

Minister Peres conferred with Mr Borovik and four Soviet ministers who deal with economic matters in New York. The meeting was called at the initiative of businessman Nisim Ga'on. Commercial matters related to agricultural and medical equipment were discussed.

Peres Accepts Offer

TA2209054989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] Finance Minister Shim'on Peres has accepted an invitation to visit the Soviet Union. The invitation was extended during a meeting in New York between Peres and a four-man delegation of nongovernmental Soviet trade officials. Both sides described the talks as very productive. Details from Judy Lessing in New York:

[Begin recording] [Lessing] Genrikh Borovik, the delegation's leader, said Mr Peres was open and constructive and made important suggestions which he will report to the government in Moscow. He was asked if trade agreements could lead to diplomatic recognition:

[Borovik] It depends certainly on the government, and we are representative of so-called people's diplomacy. We do not pretend that we sign an agreement. But I think that relations between people and trade help.

[Lessing] What kind of trade are you talking about? Any specific area?

[Borovik] We talked about agriculture, we spoke about medicine, we spoke about... [changes thought] I think other things I'll keep secret. Not secret, I mean it wouldn't be proper to speak about that before. In many fields, I should say in many fields.

[Lessing] Mr Peres said the meeting showed there is much for the Soviet Union and Israel to talk about.

[Peres] We found there is a great deal to talk about, do together, to contribute to our economies and eventually to the peace in the area, to peace in the world. We in Israel pray very much for the success of the openness in the Soviet Union—the perestroyka, the glasnost. We think it is not only changing the Soviet Union; it is changing the face of the world, and I'm sure that we shall find a wide field to cooperate and work together in the future.

[Lessing] The Soviet group will ask the bureau of the Soviet Peace Committee to invite Mr Peres to visit Moscow. Mr Borovik said he understood the finance minister would accept, and he said this invitation wouldn't be taking sides in Israel's politics.

He gave Mr Peres a ruble dollar made of titanium from an SS-20 missile destroyed under the INF Treaty. The meeting between the finance minister and the Soviet group was arranged by Swiss businessman Nisim Ga'on, the president of the World Sephardi Federation. [end recording]

Georgian Official: Alleged Invitation Hurts Ties

TA1509144789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] The mistaken announcement of a supposed invitation for Minister Sharon to visit the Georgian Soviet

Socialist Republic has damaged economic ties between Soviet Georgia and Israel. Minister Pavel Gilashvili, the commissioner of the Soviet office for foreign trade in Georgia, made this statement to our correspondent Gid'on Kouts. Gilashvili said that the Arab states protested the supposed invitation because Minister Sharon is considered a bitter enemy in these countries. He asserted that the Republic of Georgia could not invite ministers who are also political leaders, such as Yitzhaq Shamir or Shim'on Peres, but it intends to invite Education Minister Yitzhaq Navon.

Minister Gilashvili pointed out, however, that economic ties between Soviet Georgia and Israel have improved.

USSR's Petrovskiy on 'Abnormal' Lack of Ties

TA2109131789 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 21 Sep 89 p 12

[Report by Walter Ruby]

[Text] New York—Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy yesterday indicated acceptance of Hungary's decision to open diplomatic relations with Israel and termed it "abnormal" for the Soviet Union not to have such relations.

Speaking to THE JERUSALEM POST, Petrovskiy said of Hungary's decision to resume relations with Israel: "Each country makes its decision taking into account its specific situation and political environment. As for us, we consider it abnormal that there are no diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Israel."

Aytmatov Welcomes Renewed Ties With Hungary

TA2109123889 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Chingiz Aytmatov, a member of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, welcomes any political initiative—be it Israeli or Egyptian—that will improve relations between Israel and the Arabs. If such a rapprochement indeed takes place, diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Israel will be speedily renewed. Our correspondent brings some of Aytmatov's remarks:

Any peace initiative, be it of Israeli or Egyptian origin, will be gladly welcomed by the citizens of the Soviet Union if it helps bridge the differences between Israel and the Arabs. This statement was made by Chingiz Aytmatov, a member of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, when asked why the Soviet Union has so far failed to state its position regarding the Israeli and Egyptian peace initiatives.

Aytmatov linked the renewal of diplomatic relations between Israel and the Soviet Union to what he termed the rapprochement between Israel and the Arabs. Nevertheless, Aytmatov welcomed the renewal of diplomatic relations between Hungary and Israel. He said that the fact that this move was made without Hungary requesting permission from the Soviet Union is evidence of the positive developments taking place in the Eastern bloc.

When Aytmatov was asked to react to statements by Politburo members administering the last rites to Gorbachev and claiming that his days in power are numbered, he said that no one knows how long Gorbachev has left to live or to maintain this or that position. Aytmatov asserted that those who give Gorbachev another 6 months in power do not show a serious attitude. He said that the economic situation will be the really decisive factor and that the Soviet economy must therefore be strengthened.

Hungarian Envoy 'Very Happy' With Renewed Ties

TA1809190289 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Interview with Laszlo Pados, "New Minister at the Newly Upgraded Hungarian Embassy in Tel Aviv," by Gid'on Remez on 18 September—recorded]

[Text] [Pados] You know, I am the economic counselor of the former Hungarian interest office in Tel Aviv and I am dealing with economic, commercial, and financial questions. I was very happy when I heard the news, which is very important for a diplomat who is serving abroad. I have been the consul of the Hungarian Embassy for a few hours, and I hope that commerce will develop more between our two countries. I am very optimistic, and I was very happy to hear this news.

I hope that this year Hungarian exports can exceed $30 million, and also that Israeli exports to Hungary will develop a lot.

MAPAM's Young Guard Hosts Solidarity Member

TA2209103889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] A representative of the Polish Solidarity movement has arrived in Israel as a guest of MAPAM's [United Workers Party] Young Guard. (Slabomir Gurevich) is a member of Solidarity's political department and is in charge of Solidarity's contacts with students. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that (Gurevich) will participate in the MAPAM Young Guard conference that is scheduled to open tomorrow in Giv'at Haviva.

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Communist Party on Renewal of Ties With Hungary

TA1809185589 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1830 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Here are some reactions to the resumption of ties with Hungary: The Israeli Communist Party [RAKAH, New Communist List] says that following the resumption of ties, if the Israeli Government takes measures to promote the peace process, resumption of relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries may become possible.

Shinuy says the move is a blessed and welcome one and calls on the government to renew ties with the Soviet Union by showing readiness to include it in the peace process.

Austria Undecided on Appointment of Ambassador

TA1909113689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Austrian Ambassador to Israel Otto Pleinert has said that Vienna has still not decided whether to appoint a new ambassador to Israel to replace him when he completes his term next spring. Dr Pleinert told our correspondent Gid'on Remez that Austria also remains undecided on the question of whether to link the appointment of a new Austrian ambassador to the appointment of an Israeli ambassador in Vienna. The ambassador stressed, however, that reciprocity is the accepted norm in international contacts.

Israel has not appointed an ambassador to Austria since the former ambassador in Vienna resigned after Kurt Waldheim was elected president of Austria.

Argentina's Menem Interviewed; To Visit 'Soon'

TA1709130189 Tel Aviv AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 17 Sep 89 p 1

[Report on interview with Argentine President Carlos Menem, to be published in 'AL HAMISHMAR "this week," by Buenos Aires-based correspondent Yehuda Tzur]

[Text] "Very soon, I will visit Israel, for which I have deep regard and respect, in order to try and promote the peace process and to bring the parties to the negotiating table for the benefit of the nations in the region," said Argentine President Carlos Menem to an 'AL HAMISHMAR correspondent in a first interview with any Argentine president by the Israeli media.

President Menem expressed the hope that his mediation efforts will bring the Middle East conflict to an end, stressing: "It is true that I have close ties with the Syrian leadership, but I also have profound ties of friendship with the State of Israel and its leaders."

According to him, there is no conflict of interest between his efforts to make peace and his country's endeavors to sell weapons and military knowledge to Arab countries. "Why should the superpowers be the only ones allowed to sell weapons to all the parties? We need foreign currency. If Israel wishes to buy our weapons for its defense, we will willingly sell them. We have already offered to sell to Israel our training aircraft, and we are waiting for an answer."

The president totally rejected reports expressing concern for the fate of the Argentine Jewish community. "I feel great love and sympathy for the Jews in general, wherever they are. They are my brothers. My government is full of ministers and senior officials of Jewish descent, and only yesterday I appointed Bernardo Gilbert, the son of the former Peron government's finance minister, as Argentina's ambassador in France."

"I send all the Jews—in Israel and elsewhere—a deep hug of friendship and send them my greetings for the Jewish new year"—added Menem.

PRC Tourism Delegation To Open Office

TA1809114989 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Sep 89 p 4

[Report by tourism affairs correspondent Zohar Blumenkrantz]

[Excerpts] Seven officials belonging to the PRC National Tourism Administration arrived in Israel over the weekend. The delegation will stay here for 3 years and will open a permanent tourism representation in Israel.

The head of the official delegation from the PRC government-owned tourism company is carrying a personal message from the company's president to Tourism Minister Gid'on Pat. The delegation is scheduled to meet today with Avi Rosenthal, the director general of the Tourism Ministry, to relay it. Yesterday the delegation began holding official working sessions in order to open a permanent representation in Israel.

The PRC tourism delegation in Israel will work toward establishing a direct air link between Israel and the PRC and coordinating between the two countries' national carriers on flights to the Far East. The working sessions are being held at the offices of the Geographic Society in Tel Aviv, which is acting as a host for the delegation. [passage omitted]

Uri Rothschild, director general of the Geographic Society, said that this would be the fifth tourism representation the PRC has opened in the world. [passage omitted]

Issuing entry visas to the PRC will only be a marginal issue the delegation will deal with, said Rothschild. According to him, the delegation will be dealing with a much wider range of commercial relations between the two countries. [passage omitted]

Energy Minister Meets USSR Counterpart in Canada

TA1709111489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] USSR Energy Minister Yuriy Kuzmintz [name and title as heard] has thanked Israel for its assistance in the rescue operations after the Armenian earthquake. The Soviet minister met with his counterpart, Minister Shahal, in the USSR consulate in Montreal. He said that he followed closely the work of the Israeli teams when he was in charge of rescue missions.

Our correspondent Rina Matzliah reports that Minister Shahal has invited his USSR counterpart to visit Israel.

Committee Appoints Deputy Directors General

TA1809101489 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 18 Sep 89 p 3

[Report by Moti Bassok]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry's appointments committee yesterday appointed four deputy directors general. The European continent was divided up between two deputy directors general, as is the practice in most Western foreign ministries, instead of being the responsibility of a single person, as has been the case up to now.

David Turgeman was appointed deputy director general for Latin America. Arye Levin will continue to head the Israeli representation in Moscow, as well as also being deputy director general and head of the West European desk.

Yosef Govrin, until recently ambassador to Romania, will be deputy director general and head of the East European desk. Moshe Ben-Ya'aqov was appointed deputy director general for special tasks.

Aviation Officials Seek Coordination With Jordan

TA1809113089 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Sep 89 p 1

[Report by aviation reporter Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Tel Aviv—Israel's delegation to the International Civil Aviation Organization conference in Montreal will seek to improve coordination with Egyptian and Jordanian aviation authorities, THE JERUSALEM POST has learned. The conference is due to open tomorrow.

Transport Minister Moshe Katzav has instructed Israel's delegation to advocate the establishment of a regional system that would control and coordinate all civilian flights in the Middle East. While officials do not expect Syria to respond to the proposal, they believe Jordan might be amenable to some form of coordination. Links already exist with Egypt.

Israel's civil airlane to Elat runs near the Jordanian border, and close to Jordan's route to al-'Aqabah. At present Israeli and Jordanian air traffic controllers listen to one another's communications to prevent collisions but Israel would like to establish a direct telephone link between the Elat and al-'Aqabah airports.

The Israeli delegation in Montreal, headed by the Civil Aviation Administration's director Shay Shohami, is also expected to push for an agreement in which terrorists freed as a result of extortion or an additional act of terror be tried, again, once they are caught. The pilots organization—IFALPA—had recommended such a move at its latest meeting in Helsinki and the matter will now come before the intergovernmental body.

IAI Denies Ballistic Missile Failed

TA2209084889 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Sep 89 p 16

[Report by Judy Maltz]

[Text] A spokeswoman for Israel Aircraft Industries yesterday denied a report published in JANE'S DEFENCE WEEKLY, according to which a ballistic missile reported to have fallen in the Mediterranean last week was more likely the failed second stage of an Israeli satellite launch, Ofek-2. She said, "We know absolutely nothing about this."

Violence, IDF Curfews Continue in Territories

Stonings, Firebombings Reported

TA1809183489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] It was learned tonight that stones were thrown at an Israeli car driving in the village of Baqah al-Sharqiyah near Tulkarm last night. A woman sustained moderate wounds. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that the army imposed a curfew on the village, detained several suspects, and uprooted trees.

In Halhul this evening, an Israeli bus making its way to Qiryat Arba' was pelted with stones. Passengers fired in the air, shattering the windows of several passing cars.

A 50-year old tourist from Germany sustained slight injuries this evening as a stone was hurled at her near East Jerusalem's Damascus Gate. The woman, who was hit in the head, was treated on the spot.

Two Molotov cocktails were thrown tonight at a house belonging to Jews in the al-Shaykh Rayhan neighborhood in the Old City. The bottles did not ignite, and no damage was caused.

IDF Closes Bethlehem

TA2109132089 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] A Molotov cocktail was thrown at an Israeli bus parked in Bethlehem this afternoon. The bus was set on fire and was seriously damaged. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] closed the area and rounded up dozens of suspects.

Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that two German tourists were slightly injured by rocks thrown at a tourist bus near Rachel's Tomb. There were numerous stoning incidents today in Bethlehem when classes were dismissed. The IDF declared the Bethlehem area a closed military zone.

An Israeli vehicle was pelted with rocks in Hebron. Its windshield was smashed but no one was hurt.

Update on 20 Sep Incidents

TA2109165889 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Sep 89 p 2

[Report by Ori Nir and Eytan Rabin]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] There were incidents on the road through Bay[illegible]ala yesterday. The windows of one car were smashed, [illegible]d a bus carrying soldiers was pelted with rocks four times on the road to Har Gilo.

Yesterday morning two firebombs were hurled at a military vehicle driving through the village of Baytuniya. There were no casualties and no damage was caused.

Two residents of the Balatah refugee camp were slightly injured yesterday by Army gunfire. In Silwad a young man was slightly wounded, and another Arab was hurt in Bayt Surik. In al-Maghar village near Ramallah a young man was injured 2 days ago, and nine residents were arrested in an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] raid. [passage omitted]

Security sources and large police forces in the Gaza Strip have been conducting searches since yesterday afternoon for two guards and the driver of an Israeli truck who were involved in the shooting of an 11-year-old Gaza resident. The boy was seriously injured by a bullet in the chest and hospitalized in Tel Hashomer Hospital. The IDF spokesman for the Southern Command reported that relative quiet prevailed in the Gaza Strip, except for a commercial strike on Gaza's main street. The IDF spokesman claimed that business was as usual, workers set out for their jobs in Israel, and daily life was not disrupted. Arab sources reported that only a small number of laborers left for work in Israel.

The IDF spokesman reported one wounded resident: an 11-year-old boy.

[Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 21 September in a pool report on page 4, section A, adds that "Stones were thrown at Israeli cars on the Jerusalem-Hebron road yesterday in several locations. In Halhul, Israelis got out of their car and hurled stones at an Arab taxi, causing injuries to its occupants. A similar incident took place near the al-'Arrub refugee camp, when local setters threw stones and injured two Arab youths."

The report adds that "17 injuries were reported in the territories yesterday, mainly in the Gaza Strip. They included two 12-year-old boys from the Zaytun neighborhood in Gaza and the al-Burayj refugee camp. One was shot in the head, one in the stomach. Two other al-Burayj youths were injured; one of them was hospitalized at Tel Hashomer."

The article goes on to state that "a young man was shot in the stomach in Bayt Zuriya near Ramallah," adding that a "curfew was imposed on the villages of Hosan and Kafr Malis and residents were arrested after a firebomb was hurled at an IDF patrol. There were no casualties."]

Curfew Imposed in Bayt Sahur

TA2209063789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Report by Shlomo Berger]

[Excerpt] Slogans painted in Nabulus called Egyptian President Mubarak a traitor and warned Palestinians not to accept the Israeli peace initiative. The graffiti said only those chosen by the PLO-backed Unified Leadership of the Uprising are authorized to participate in political meetings. This is an obvious reference to a

group of six Palestinians now in Cairo, who met Egyptian leaders. Although the six are PLO supporters, Palestinian sources here say they are on private visits and were not appointed by the PLO.

In other developments, the army has imposed a curfew on the town of Bayt Sahur, near Bethlehem. The town is considered a focal point of Palestinian activism and civil disobedience, and curfews have been imposed there several times since the beginning of the uprising. The army did not give a reason for the measure, but residents say soldiers and tax collectors confiscated goods from people who had not paid their taxes. The curfew is also continuing in nearby Bayt Jala. It was imposed on Wednesday after a soldier was hit in the head by a rock and seriously hurt. The Army has been conducting house-to-house searches in an attempt to find the attackers. [passage omitted]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0500 GMT on 22 September adds that "five Molotov cocktails and axes were hurled this morning at an Egged bus that had come to the village of western Barta'a in the Triangle to collect laborers." The report says that "no one was hurt but the bus was damaged. Nails were found strewn on the road leading from Nazareth to 'Afula last night."]

IDF Reports 2,124 Palestinians in Detention

TA2109140889 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 21 Sep 89 p 3

[Report by Uri'el Ben-'Ami]

[Text] Exactly 2,124 residents of the territories are currently in administrative detention, while approximately 8,000 have been in administrative detention since the beginning of the intifadah [uprising]. These figures were reported to 'AL HAMISHMAR yesterday by the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman.

The spokesman added that while the administrative detainees have been sentenced to prison terms ranging from 2 months to 1 year, he had no breakdown of prisoners according to length of sentence.

The IDF spokesman also reported that he had no data on the number of prisoners released in the Jibril deal that had been rearrested since the beginning of the uprising.

New Reporting Method on Detainees' Whereabouts

TA2109181889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has instituted new procedures to report on the whereabouts of detainees from the territories to insure that their families know about their relatives' arraignment as soon as possible. Our correspondent 'Adi Malul reports that any new detainee will send a postcard to his family, including details on where he is being held. He will also inform his family by telephone whether he needs medication. The names of the detainees will be posted in Civil Administration offices; if relatives request information, the Civil Administration will notify them within 2 days. The new procedures were introduced following an appeal submitted by the Civil Rights Association.

Furman, Al-Husayni Meet; Gush Emunim Objects

TA2209082689 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Sep 89 p 11

[Report by Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Tel Aviv—Palestinian leader Faisal Al-Husayni and prominent settler Rabbi Menahem Furman met this week for five hours and found a good deal of common ground. But Gush Emunim said Furman's move had "stabbed anyone to whom Jewish life...is dear."

Al-Husayni told THE JERUSALEM POST he had initiated the meeting after having learnt that the Te'koa rabbi, a former member of Gush Emunim's secretariat, supported self-determination for the Palestinians and the refugees' right to return to the lands they had left in 1948.

A secular Jew from Haifa acted as the go-between, persuaded Furman to meet Al-Husayni, and hosted them.

According to Furman, "90 per cent of the discussion was non-political," though he spoke out against a Palestinian state, which he said would be "a disaster."

Furman said his main goal had been to persuade Al-Husayni to approve meetings between rabbis and kadis to discuss philosophical and religious matters such as the essence of nationalism, the relationship between man and the land and other "theoretical scholarly matters."

Al-Husayni told THE JERUSALEM POST he was impressed by Furman's political views. He recalled that Furman talked about having one state here, called Yisra'el in Hebrew and Falastin in Arabic. It would have two flags and two presidents.

These views were "so close to the Palestinian [dream] of one democratic secular state," Al-Husayni said.

Gush Emunim said Furman had "long ago extricated himself" from the movement. "He is known for his exceptional views and he frequently expresses views completely antithetical to the Zionist ideal. This time he went too far," the movement's spokesman said.

Lebanese Border Becoming Base for Drug Activity

TA2109143089 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 21 Sep 89 p 9

[Report by Hayim Broida and Tamar Trabelsi]

[Text] The police will soon increase activity along the security fence separating Israel and Lebanon, and will introduce new measures to assist the IDF [Israel Defense

Forces]. These measures are designed to put a stop to the operations of drug dealers on both sides of the border who attempt to smuggle heroin and cocaine into Israel.

The Galilee Subdistrict police stated yesterday that the Lebanese border, due to its length (approximately 100 km), is considered an "open border" as far as drugs are concerned. This makes the Lebanese border very attractive for Israeli drug dealers.

Apparently, Israeli criminals do not have to go abroad to buy drugs. They have moved their activity to the Lebanese border. Chief Inspector 'Amiram Alon of the Galilee Subdistrict drug squad explained that an Israeli criminal can buy 1 kg of high-grade narcotics in Lebanon for only $8,000, while the same quantity of drugs abroad would cost several times as much.

Alon said that "after mixing the pure drug with other ingredients, such as fructose, the quantity of drugs can be more than doubled, and ultimately sold for over $150,000 in Israel."

According to Alon, the first 9 months of 1989 witnessed an increase of over 175 percent in the activity of Israeli drug dealers on the Lebanese border, as compared to the same period last year.

The method in which drugs are smuggled in has been discovered to be relatively simple; the Lebanese drug smuggler throws the drugs over the border fence to the Israeli dealer, who then throws the money over to the Lebanese side. Over the past 4 months the police have seized 24 kg of heroin which were passed over in this manner.

SLA Fired On in Security Zone; No Casualties

TA2209090989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] Two SLA [South Lebanese Army] positions came under fire by terrorists early this morning. The positions, near the village of Rashaf in the eastern sector of the Lebanese security zone, were attacked with rocket-propelled grenades and fire from automatic weapons. There were no casualties. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the SLA responded with artillery fire at the spot the attack originated from.

Official Defends Quality of Gaza Medical Services

TA1909121889 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Dr Ram Yishay, the head of the Israel Medical Association, has responded to charges about the level of medical services in Gaza and the alleged negative role of the Israeli authorities in this respect. Lea Zinder reports:

Dr Yishay says his investigation produced no evidence of these charges. On the contrary, he says, there has been a steady improvement in the medical service in the Gaza Strip over the past 20 years and including the past 2 years of the intifadah [uprising]. Politics, he says, is not a factor. [passage omitted]

Dr Yishay says two Palestinian doctors from Gaza have been detained because they were found guilty of security breaches and not because of their medical activity. As an example of improved medical care, he says infant mortality in Gaza has dropped from 29.4 per 1,000 at the beginning of the intifadah to 28.1. He adds that infant mortality in neighboring Arab countries like Egypt stands at 45 per 1,000 infants.

Dr Yishay admits that Israeli policy is to treat Palestinians in their own local hospitals wherever possible for budgetary and policy reasons, but, he stresses, any case that cannot be treated in Gaza hospitals is transferred to an Israeli hospital. For example, between 450 and 540 Gazans are treated for cancer in Israeli hospitals every month. Without witholding medical care, says Dr Yishay, it is vital to encourage Palestinians to make their medical service more autonomous.

'Spotters' To Help Reduce Child Casualties

TA1909061489 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Soldiers who will serve as gunfire spotters will be stationed next to soldiers who shoot plastic bullets at rioters in the territories. This is designed to reduce the number of children injured during violent incidents. Our military correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the decision was made on the basis of surveys carried out in IDF [Israel Defense Forces] headquarters, following incidents in which children were killed after having strayed into soldiers' line of fire.

Senior IDF sources told our correspondent that since the new regulation permitting soldiers to open fire on masked men went into effect, the latters' presence in the Gaza Strip has been reduced.

Collections From Territories Not Transferred

TA1509120889 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Sep 89 p 16

[ITIM Report]

[Text] All taxes collected from Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip remain in the territories; not one agora is transferred to Israel, Income Tax Commissioner Moshe Gavish told reporters at a press conference in Tel Aviv yesterday.

Tax collection in the territories conforms to international treaties and the tax laws in force in Jordan and Egypt in 1967, and all monies raised there are used to finance the activities of the civil administration, to support schools, hospitals, and municipal services, he said.

About NIS [new Israeli shekels] 140-150 million is collected in the West Bank and NIS 40 million is gathered in Gaza, Gavish said, but the figure had dropped slightly since the uprising began in December 1987.

Swedish Minister Issues Statement, Departs Amman

JN2109123289 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson has said that his meeting with His Majesty King Husayn and his excellency the prime minister was important and positive. He also said that the talks he held with Jordanian officials and Palestinian people's representatives in Jordan were fruitful and constructive.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency upon departing Amman this morning, Sten Andersson said: I have obtained first-hand information pointing to the fact that Jordanian policy is characterized by wisdom and far-sightedness, and that Jordanian positions on all regional issues are marked by a clarity of vision and complete awareness of the regional and international dimensions. He referred to the distinguished role Jordan plays concerning the efforts exerted to solve these issues.

Andersson explained that he emerged from his visit to Jordan with a good deal of information and facts on the region's situation and the developments of the Palestinian question. He said that he would convey this information to the Swedish people who pay a great deal of attention to this part of the world.

Andersson was bidden farewell at Queen Alia International Airport by Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and a number of Foreign Ministry officials.

Former Prime Minister Welcomes Coming Elections

JN2109072489 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 21-22 Sep 89 p 3

[Text] Irbid (J.T.)—Jordan is in need of genuine reforms and a national plan for political development as successful as the socio-economic development plans that had been implemented in the past years; and all this can be attained by the coming parliament which will be elected on Nov. 8, former prime minister and member of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad 'Ubaydat said in a lecture at the Professional Association Complex in Irbid.

The coming parliament, he said, should bear the responsibility of acting as a constitutional authority and play a serious role in rectifying the situation in the Kingdom.

'Ubaydat stressed the need for the dominance of law on all aspects in Jordan and reaffirmed the citizens' need to respect the law, to pledge allegiance to the throne and to express deep faith in security, peace and stability.

"This country can make no headway towards progress without the prevalence of the law on all citizens who have the right to be fully represented in parliament which should play an active role in serving their interest since Jordanian citizens are partners in responsibility," 'Ubaydat noted.

In return, he said, the government "should work with honesty and integrity and good faith; and should under no circumstances belittle the role of the majority, ignore its interests and disregard its public opinion. Otherwise, everything will end up in oppression and tyranny.

"The criteria of success for a government is the result of its action, its commitment to shoulder responsibility and its ability to plan and implement sound policies," 'Ubaydat noted. "Should the government act accordingly, it will no doubt win the support and confidence of the whole nation."

'Ubaydat attacked those elements who benefited from certain political situations to deepen the gap between the ruling authority and the ruled masses, and those who succeeded in poisoning the Jordanian people's self-confidence at a critical moment in the region's history.

"Those elements, he said, acquired major gains and made material profits by exploiting institutions, including the legislative institution, in order to provide protection for their illegitimate gains. They have succeeded in that course of action due to the political vacuum in the country and because of the absence of authority to call them to account for their deeds," 'Ubaydat said.

Those elements, he added, have exceeded all limits in their actions, exploited Jordan's economy and accumulated wealth at the expense of the majority.

"In this situation, there has been a retreat of justice; and this in turn encouraged encroachment on public funds, giving way to corruption on a large scale," 'Ubaydat pointed out.

He said: "Because of all this we are now paying the price of our silence and condoning such excessiveness and major blunders.

"Indeed the public's despair increased by the lapse of time, and due to the general licence that swept the country, there was no public willingness to confront those elements who continually escaped retribution," 'Ubaydat noted.

The failure on the part of the previous house of parliament to deal with the situation, "paved the way for those elements to persist in their actions at a time when all forms of legitimate opposition vanished and when all chances for constructive criticism were doomed," 'Ubaydat said.

What happened in the past few years, 'Ubaydat pointed out, has contributed towards an aggravation of the situation to a large extent. "What we witnessed was an economic recession and not a single solution for the problem of the unemployment.

"The past few years saw a fever in currency speculation, involvement of certain banks in underhand dealings, the creation of a black market, the first to be witnessed in Jordan; all of which led to a devaluation of the Jordanian

dinar and a decline in the public's confidence in the national currency," 'Ubaydat said.

"Of course, the government was present all the time, watching everything and doing nothing to redress the situation; and of course, the silent majority paid the price," he said.

'Ubaydat referred to previous government's declared policy to deal with pockets of poverty, but he said, unemployment and wide-scale poverty have been plaguing the country for the past four years. "This resulted partly from rampant spending, unjustified imports of commodities that do not meet the needs of Jordan.

"Despite the government's knowledge of the critical stage Jordan was going through, and despite the public awareness of the facts, the situation was allowed to aggravate and the nation's foreign currency reserves continued to deplete, coupled with the depletion of the citizens' confidence in their institutions," 'Ubaydat said.

"We noticed with great astonishment and dismay how the writers, the information services and the media were exploited to further mislead the public, distort the facts, to present the awkward policies as sound plans and to present the national economy as strong and the monetary situation as stable... but at the end everyone was disillusioned when the facts surfaced...," 'Ubaydat said.

"Indeed Jordan lived through a period of frustration and total resignation and hopelessness before the regrettable incidents that occurred in the southern regions of the country. Since the people of Jordan were totally indignant and outraged at watching public funds being mishandled, and the citizens' interests ignored," 'Ubaydat continued.

Control over public spending and abuse of authority was totally absent in the past years and matters could not have worsened to such degree had there been constitutional institutions to work as watchdogs and to provide guarantees, 'Ubaydat said.

"For this reason the role of parliament is important and the coming Lower House will have to play a major role to enhance the spirit of law and order and to do justice to all," 'Ubaydat added. "Jordan is in need of political reform and total commitment to serving the common interests and to safeguard the citizens' rights," 'Ubaydat said. "We oppose any form of extremism and denounce violence of any kind. We believe that institutions should exercise their responsible role in a democratic manner and provide a guarantee for the continuation of the march towards development," 'Ubaydat said.

He added: "We must deal firmly with all calls for divisions and regionalism and we should denounce any deviation from the law and should close the door for all sources of corruption...."

'Ubaydat expressed the view that imported and alien ideologies and formulas "were responsible for our loss over the past 25 years."

We hope, 'Ubaydat said, the coming Lower House of Parliament will shoulder the responsibility of rectifying the situation.

"The present stage cannot tolerate any cosmetic treatment of partial solutions for the existing problems in the country. The majority of the people in Jordan is awaiting with eagerness to see just solutions to the numerous problems," 'Ubaydat added.

"We have implemented numerous economic plans which yielded fruitful results, but we are now in need of a national political development plan to take the country to a safe harbour," 'Ubaydat said.

We should remember, 'Ubaydat said, that "time is not on our side, and therefore we ought to work in earnest to restore the balance to the constitutional authorities of Jordan and to enable the central authority to wield power over expenditure in military as well as civilian fields."

Writer Says U.S. Offers Arabs Only 'Hostility'

JN1609094289 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
16 Sep 89 p 26

["Seven Days" column by Fahd al-Rimawi: "America—Antagonist and Arbiter?"]

[Text] Since the U.S. influence has penetrated our Arab world and the Middle East following the Second World War, the United States has never been a friend to our nation or acted as an arbiter between us and our enemies. Given its imperialist nature, the United States will never be now, or at any time in the future, a friend to rely on or an arbiter whose integrity and objectivity can be trusted.

The successive U.S. Administrations, since the time of President Truman who recognized the State of Israel 1 minute after its declaration, have been strongly antagonistic toward us, our aspirations for independence and stability, our yearning for unity, freedom, social justice, and the restoration of the usurped parts of our Arab homeland.

Whether we turn to extremism and escalation or adhere to moderation and calls for a settlement, whether we opt for friendship or raise the banner of antagonism against the United States and its broad interests in our greater homeland, or whether we open a goodwilled dialogue with the U.S. Administrations or wage wars against them and turn the people of the world against their tyrannical policies and colonialist practices, the successuve U.S. Administrations have nothing to offer us but hostility and attempts at containment.

The United States has rejected any call for equality between us and it. Likewise, now and in the future, the

United States tries all means and methods to give the interests of the Zionist enemy the upper hand over our interests and obstruct our objectives no matter how peaceful and necessary they are. For the United States we can either be contained or we can be enemies.

The word friendship and its variations do not exist in the U.S. dictionary when dealing with the Arabs. Equality and mutual respect are completely absent. What there is, is completely the opposite. What is required is that the Arab world act as a beggar for U.S. sympathy or the political and economic charity that Uncle Sam may be so generous to offer, but nothing more.

Under the hammer of the intifadah [uprising], which has been raging for over 21 months and which has strongly addressed the human conscience throughout the world, the administration of former President Reagan decided to open a dialogue with the PLO, alleging a serious desire to look for common denominators between the two sides that may serve as a basis for bridging the contradictory Palestinian-Israeli viewpoints. That alleged desire was said to be emanating from a U.S. wish to play the role of arbiter between the two conflicting sides who should be brought to the shore of reconciliation, peace, and good-neighborliness.

The Palestinians—or some of them—believed the U.S. claims, while others preferred to put these claims to the test. The dialogue began in Tunis despite all the warnings against the dangers of the U.S. trap set on the ground of the dialogue to curb the revolutionary momentum of the intifadah and to undermine world sympathy with our militant masses and their just cause.

Days and months have passed and the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue is still at the starting line without any progress, thus foiling the few wagers that U.S. policy had changed or that it might respond to the new circumstances created by the intifadah. This confirms the imperialist nature which is a strategic, unyielding opponent to all Arab and Palestinian aspirations, and which has been and will continue to be biased toward aggressive Zionist practices.

Since the June 1967 aggression, it has become clear to see that the United States went beyond protecting Israel and maintaining its interests to safegarding its conquests, securing its victories, and contributing toward making us pay the price of Israel's aggression. To achieve this objective, the United States supplied our Israeli enemy with all types of sophisticated weapons and financial aid on the one hand, and obstructed UN resolutions and rendered international and human sympathy with our cause ineffective on the other.

In sum, the United States has been and will continue to be an antagonist to us and an ally to our enemies. How can it revert overnight from antagonist to arbiter?

Columnist Calls for Rescinding Martial Law

JN1809084589 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 18 Sep 89 p 4

["Weekly Political Pulse" column by Walid al-Sa'di]

[Text] One of the issues being hotly debated during this year's election campaign is what to do with the martial law regime still in effect in Jordan since 1967. This debate is taking all sorts of forms and styles, varying from living room chats to public meetings. The tempo of the discussions has accelerated lately because it is generally thought that the next parliament will have this subject on the top of its agenda.

All cool headed arguments in favour of the lifting of the martial law regime concede that the country had indeed gone through very difficult periods that seriously threatened its security and stability. Of course on the top of the list of such dangerous periods was the 1967 war with Israel and the following wars and acts of aggression committed by Israeli armed forces on the East Bank of the Kingdom. And with the continued occupation of the West bank, parliamentary life in the country was also put in a limbo as general elections became impossible.

But after 22 years on the introduction of martial law to the country and in the wake of the 1988 decision to sever administrative and legal relations with the West Bank, there is now a new opportunity to think afresh about the need to perpetuate what by nature and definition should have been a temporary regime. True the consequences of the 1967 war remained as is and the threats to Jordan's security and stability are as formidable as ever, yet there is now a cause to resort to non-emergency legislation to realise security and stability in the country and the reasons are many.

First, and foremost, the Kingdom has now opted after much deliberation to reinstitute a parliamentary system. Viable and operational parliamentary style of government is by definition anathema to martial law or a state of emergency. Succinctly put one cannot have a martial law regime and at the same time expect an effective and developing parliamentary life. The two phenomena are mutually exclusive and there is no way that one can reconcile with the other.

Second, the country is capable of coping with all the threats and designs being contemplated against it by the application of ordinary law. If the existing legislation is not adequate or is incomplete, then the remedy lies in expanding the scope and content of existing laws in order to make them more responsive to the needs of the country. It goes without saying that our judicial branch of government would need revitalising and streamlining to cope with the body of cases that will surely ensue upon the suspension of the martial law regime. This would call for the creation of other courts, appointment of additional judges and modernisation of the court system in the country. As things exist now, our judiciary can ill-afford to take on additional loads of cases and deal

with them expeditiously. Everybody who is privy to the court system in Jordan knows only too well that there is an urgent need for a thorough overhaul of that system from A to Z. Above all it is high time that our judiciary introduce a contemporary system of taking courtroom transcripts, as the one that is still employed is woefully archaic and goes back literally to the Ottoman era. Without a modern system of taking courtroom records and minutes, much time and money continue to be wasted away. The country has yet to take the much overdue decision on rectifying such an absurd and obsolete system without which adjudication will continue to progress at only snail speed.

Third, the Kingdom had signed and ratified the International Convenant on Civil and Political Rights more than a decade ago. That international instrument regulates the application of the state of emergency and martial law and calls on party states to notify the U.N. about their justifications and durations; it is being understood that their application must be short durated and that no derogation from basic rights be allowed. In other words, to meet our treaty obligations under that convenant, the resort to martial law must at all times be an exception to the rule, which by definition means limited application in terms of time and contents.

Last, it is the image of Jordan as a moderate country free of human rights violations that will suffer as long as martial law is in place. It took His Majesty King Husayn many decades of relentless efforts and hard work to earn that envious image for the Kingdom and it would be most unfortunate to let unnecessary policies interfere with that hard won reputaiton. It so happens that various international fora are concerned about the widespread and liberal introduction of state of emergencies and martial law regimes and classify countries accordingly. Against all the foregoing background, it would be in the overall interest of the country to lift martial law even prior to the November 8 general elections.

Writer on 'Underground Movement' Meeting, Aims

JN2109075489 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 21-22 Sep 89 p 3

[Article by Nirmeen Murad, JORDAN TIMES staff reporter: "Apples in Political Basket—Greener or Redder?"]

[Text] Amman—The appointment was made a week in advance, upon "their" own request, but "they" would not define the meeting place until that same day. Four cars, filled with apprehensive yet excited reporters, drove along main roads and side roads to reach a deserted shop somewhere in Amman.

Excitement was tinged with fear as the four cars waited for a signal, a signal which would lead to the meeting place of the political party.

Election time has highlighted the existence of the "idealists;" now the underground movement wants a seat at the centre stage of public participation and seeks some outlet to let its views be known. Zero hour came, and the media objects were called in to hear the announcement of the names which, if successful, will "portray and defend the rights of the people," their leader said.

Why are you running out of hiding?

"We have decided to run in the elections on a national level, to reach parliament and ensure that there would be a serious initiation of a democratic movement for the good of the people."

Can you outline your campaign?

"Nothing has crystallised yet, but we want public participation in the solving of Jordan's problems."

But what about the other parties? Aren't they stronger than you?

"No, they were dealt a heavy blow when they did not help earlier, and they are disunited."

What makes you different?

"We have a deep realisation and understanding of the pitfalls of this quest for recognition, and we know that we will not win unless we are united. It is our only weapon."

What are your fears?

"We will have very few fears after we register for the elections. But we hope that the government will not decide to use Article 18E of the Election Law against us."

Now, Article 18E stipulates that a candidate "should not be a member of an illegal grouping or party." The article defines as illegal "any part of organisation which contradicts, in its goals, aims and principles, the Jordanian constitution."

If 18E is conservatively interpreted by the government in favour of wider participation of political parties in the Kingdom, then the question, to many observers, is what is the percentage of Jordanian people who will cast their ballots based on political affiliations?

A researcher who conducted a survey of public opinion in Jordan claims that 14.6 per cent of the registered voters would elect their political party candidate. This percentage, he said, includes members of religion-oriented parties.

According to many who are aware of this trend, the basket may actually contain a few apples with definite and clear origins in the parliament, but they hope that these apples would not carry labels of foreign origins.

Although the slogans of emerging political parties stress the need for concentrating attention on national affairs affecting the daily lives of the Jordanian people, many voters fear that these slogans would later be replaced with imported political and economic ideologies.

Foreign thoughts, they argue, would inevitably change the social structure and priorities in Jordan and would inevitably lead to foreign interferences in the Kingdomn.

Other parties have agreed that foreign political ideas have made a marked contribution to their political evolution in Jordan, but they maintain that domestic issues have ascended to the top of the ladder of priorities and have completely (reshaped forms of thoughts in the wake of a strong need for practical and realistic steps).

The so-called "dissident" parties maintain now that their new found national ideologies will not contravene the Jordanian Constitution and will serve national interest and stability.

The reporters got up to leave. The candidates smile with hope. The questions are not resolved. The media objects are only transmitters of news, a channel between the candidates and the people. The results will be determined in a few weeks....

Until then, the basket will just have to wait for its apples.

Al-Hariri Buys AL-MUSTAQBAL Magazine

JN2109130689 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 21 Sep 89 p 1

[Exclusive]

[Text] London—The billionaire Rafiq al-Hariri [a Saudi national of Lebanese origin] has managed to purchase AL-MUSTAQBAL magazine for a price said to be in millions [currency not specified]. The magazine ceased publication several weeks ago following a dispute between the purchaser and the seller. The publisher, Nabil Khuri, is demanding to remain in charge as the magazine's chief editor, but Al-Hariri is opposed to this.

Arab League Envoy Comments on Peace Efforts

NC2109174289 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1430 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] After a banquet in his honor hosted by attorney Shakir Abu-Sulayman, Arab League envoy Lakhdar Ibrahimi has disclosed many important aspects of his efforts to reporters. He said: I only ask for a few measures to enable us to achieve security. We will then be able to discuss other issues. He said: What is wrong with taking certain steps, the sole purpose of which is to end the fighting, lift the blockade, and open the door for political discussions. He said: The committee is Lebanese and chaired by me. Does anyone refuse to cooperate with me to achieve a cease-fire and lift the blockade? Let us listen to Ibrahimi.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] The statement released by the Arab committee was met by some reservations on the part of certain parties, particularly regarding political clauses. Will this hamper the Arab committee's work?

[Ibrahimi] I think that it is only natural that all parties should ask questions, discuss, and want to understand everything related to this plan. However, I believe that the seven clauses that are currently put forward for discussion constitute a necessary starting-point from which to address the Lebanese problem. In the past, when we shuttled among the various parties in Beirut and other areas, we were asked by every party to work to achieve security so that it would be possible to discuss the political issues. Every party made demands and set preconditions. Many of these preconditions were unacceptable to other parties. After (?considering) these demands and wishes—every party that made a demand considered it legitimate—we formulated a group of principles that were not intended to be unfair to any party or affect the basic interests, goals, and principles of any party. We truly believe that we have reached a reasonable balance among the conflicting demands, which are very far apart, and that this group of principles will really enable us to settle security matters in order to delve into the political issues. I repeat that acceptance of these seven clauses does not bind anyone to give way on a goal or principle, but it does bind all parties to accept the peaceful option, to give the peaceful option a chance, and give the tripartite committee a real opportunity. The Arab committee is trying to assist the brothers in Lebanon to reach the solution they want and make the necessary concessions that all parties must make to satisfy one another without infringing on basic issues. Our long-term and ultimate goal is to enable Lebanon to resume its previous status as a sovereign and strong country, so that no one will be able to infringe on its dignity, rights, or sovereignty. These are the seven clauses. I always maintain that the brothers in Lebanon know better than anyone else whether our modest attempt is useful or not. In the event, the final word must be theirs, because they have to shoulder the responsbility and face up to the results, be they good or bad. This is all I want to say now.

[Reporter] Mr ambasador, don't you believe that complete acceptance of these seven clauses suggests some form of imposition? Why not discuss the political and security aspects? Is there any hint of a threat here?

[Ibrahimi] No, there are no threats. It is possible to discuss anything you want, but you must understand this point. What is going to happen? I repeat that I am not asking anyone to relinquish a principle or a goal. All I am asking is a few measures to enable us to achieve security, so that we may discuss the other issues. That is all. If this is unacceptable, what can I do? Am I going to declare war in Lebanon? No. But I will leave. If you want us to discuss the issue, let us discuss it. Anyway, I am not going to declare war or create a problem. But what will happen on the ground? No one has as yet told me if it is wrong to take certain measures that are only aimed at ending the fighting , lifting the blockade, and opening the door for political discussions. No one has told me that there is any danger in this. If anyone has a certain goal in Lebanon, whether it is to liberate Lebanon from a foreign presence, or to achieve unity with Syria, tell me what is wrong in saying yes, let us end the fighting, lift the blockade, and allow the deputies to meet. That is all. No document, view, or precondition will be imposed on them or on the deputies. They will not be obliged to settle everything in 3 days. No. This is only the beginning of a process intended to lead toward a solution. No one has told me there is any danger in this. Anyway, the final say lies with the parties concerned. Either you tell me to start work with you or I will leave. I have no other choice. Thank you.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Ibrahimi] The committee is Lebanese and chaired by me. Does anyone refuse to cooperate with me to achieve a cease-fire and lift the blockade? [end recording]

Lebanese, Palestinian Leaders To Meet in Tehran

JN2209060089 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] It has been learned from informed sources in Damascus that a new expanded meeting will be held in Tehran during the next few days embracing a number of Lebanese, Palestinian, and Iranian leaders. These sources said that Ahmad Jibril [leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command] and Colonel Abu-Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha, leader of Fatah-the Uprising Movement] left for the Iranian capital yesterday [21 September]. They were accompanied on the same plane by Shaykhs Subhi al-Tufayli and Hasan Nasrallah, who are responsible for Hizballah. They will be joined on Sunday [24 September] by Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri and Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt in order to resume the consultations which began last June under the sponsorship of Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Saudi Sources Cite Syrian Withdrawal 'Pledges'

NC2109183589 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1630 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] High-ranking Saudi sources have stated that the members of the Arab tripartite committee, and Saudi Arabia in particular, have reliable pledges from Syrian officials that the Syrian Army will withdraw from all the Lebanese territories except for al-Biqa' in accordance with the Lebanese accord document. The committee is confident that these pledges will be honored [passage indistinct]. The Saudi sources say that the seven-point plan is indivisible; any delay in responding will be treated as a rejection and will be publicly described as such. The same applies to any delay in holding the parliamentary meeting. The deputies' meetings should not continue (?for a long time) but they should last for a few days. If this does not happen, the committee will name the party that is being obstructive.

Answering a question on what would happen if Lakhdar Ibrahimi's mission were to fail, the Saudi sources said that Ibrahimi would return to Jeddah to brief the committee on his consultations. The committee would then announce the outcome of the talks and name those responsible for their failure.

The sources said that if Michel 'Awn rejects the committee's proposals, this will reflect on everyone in East Beirut and the consequences will be unpredictable. Therefore, East Beirut officials who support the committee's efforts and proposals should speak out and also try to persuade 'Awn to take a positive stand.

Junblatt Discusses Syrian Presence, Solution

NC2109152589 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt has stressed that political reforms in Lebanon do not conflict with the Syrian presence. He said that Israeli withdrawal from the south is a basic and strategic factor. Junblatt said the Syrian presence is a guarantee for Lebanon's Arabism, noting that Syria constitutes Lebanon's depth. Syria, he said, is an Arab country whose citizens are linked to the Lebanese citizens by very old historical, cultural, and human relationships.

Junblatt reiterated his support for an Arab solution and rejected the internationalization of the Lebanese crisis. He also rejected an Israeli or sectarian solution to the Lebanese problem. He called for reforms through equality among the Lebanese citizens. He said: We want a new electoral system proportionate to the population and to make Lebanon one electoral constituency in which all parties can be represented.

France's Dumas Urges 'Awn To Accept Arab Plan

NC2209061989 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn will meet with Arab envoy Lakhdar Ibrahim today [22 September] to inform him of 'Awn's position on the Arab tripartite committee statement. A course of action will then be decided in light of this position, which was reached after 4 days of consultations.

Gen 'Awn's stand will be conveyed to Ibrahimi this afternoon after the prime minister has completed his contacts with key political, spiritual, and trade union figures.

At noon today, 'Awn will chair a ministerial meeting with Ministers Edgar Ma'luf and 'Isam Abu-Jamrah to assess the results of these consultations.

Only hours before his scheduled meeting with Ibrahimi, Gen 'Awn received a telephone call from French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas who asked 'Awn to moderate his position on the Arab committee's new plan.

A source close to Gen 'Awn has disclosed that the prime minister has received similar calls urging him to accept the proposed plan from European and Arab parties.

Foreign Ministry Request on Helicopters Rejected

NC2109124589 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The UN Interim Force in Lebanon [UNIFIL] Command has turned down a request from the Lebanese Foreign Ministry to ferry personalities to Lebanon on board UNIFIL helicopters.

The UNIFIL commander informed the Foreign Ministry that UNIFIL helicopters are not technically equipped to fly to Cyprus. The commander explained that all official UN guests arrive from Cyprus by means of transport unconnected with UNIFIL.

East Beirut Parliamentary Committee Established

NC2209075189 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] It has been learned that an East Beirut parliamentary committee consisting of Deputies Nasri al-Ma'luf, Butrus Harb, and Khatchig Babikian has been established. Its mission is to draw up guidelines for reforms and to hold consultations with Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and West Beirut deputies to prepare for the deputies' meeting on 30 September proposed by the Arab committee.

Army Command Issues Statement on Israeli Shelling

NC2109185089 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Statement issued by West Beirut Army Command Guidance Directorate on 21 September]

[Text] The Israeli enemy has interfered with the efforts that are being made to extricate Lebanon from its tragedy in a bid to obstruct these efforts. After the enemy's aircraft raided the al- Na'imah hills yesterday [20 September] afternoon, Israeli forces carried out a violent and concentrated bombardment of the towns of Maydun and 'Ayn al-Tinah in Western al-Biqa' for 2 hours at 0100 today. The resulting human and property losses have not yet been determined.

These attacks coincided with enemy War Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's visit to the occupied areas in the south, where he made statements hostile to the Arab efforts to rescue Lebanon.

Maritime Target Attacked Near Juniyah Port

NC2209084189 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Statement issued by West Beirut Army Command Guidance Directorate on 22 September]

[Text] A maritime target appeared off the Juniyah coast at 0200. Our artillery fired at it to prevent it from reaching the eastern area's ports, enforcing its policy of interdicting the supply of arms and ammunition.

Israeli Forces Reinforce Positions in South

NC2209084589 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] The Israeli occupation forces deployed some 300 soldiers and 30 tanks on the al-Bayyadah and al-Naqurah Heights parallel to the western sector last night. According to an Israeli source, this measure was taken after resistance fighters entered the area.

A source from the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon which is deployed in the area has stated that an Israeli Cobra-type helicopter fired three missiles at the fighters. The source could not say whether there were any casualties.

Clashes Reported in Various Areas 21 Sep

NC2109195689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The al-Duwwar, al-'Ayrun, and Duhur al-Shuwayr combat line has been the scene of sporadic machinegun and rocket fire since 2100 today. Flares are also being fired in the area. Several shells fell in Bikfayya at approximately 2130. Tension prevails in the forest and Afqa areas in the wake of clashes in the afternoon and evening.

A guarded calm prevails on the other combat lines after a setback in the evening, when mortar fire was directed at the Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and Dahr al-Wahsh and at the towns of al-Kahhalah, Bsus, and 'Arayya. Al-Luwayzah came under machinegun fire from al-'Ibadiyah, and machinegun fire was also reported on the Kafr Shima-al-Shuwayfat combat line.

Resistance Attacks South Lebanese Army Posts

NC2209100289 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] Members of the national resistance fired two Katyusha rockets at Lahd militia [South Lebanese Army] positions near Hasbayya last night. The militias combed the area with tank artillery and heavy machinegun fire from their posts in Tall Zaghlah and Abu Qamhah. The shelling covered northern Kawkaba and the Mimis sector.

Meanwhile, reports from the border strip indicate that the occupation forces have resumed work on establishing a telephone link between Hasbayya and Israel. Work began in (Nab' Subay') in Hasbani yesterday.

Hizballah Members Fire at Farmers, Abduct Citizen

NC2209080989 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] Hizballah men resumed their acts of aggression against inhabitants of the Afqa area yesterday by firing at farmers in the villages of Lasa, Munaytirah, and (? Mazarib).

In another incident in West Beirut, Hizballah members kidnapped citizen Sami Karam, a Middle East Airlines employee and took him to an unknown destination. Karam is the seventh person kidnapped in West Beirut by Hizballah members this week.

PRC's Qian Qichen Arrives, Makes Statement

JN2109211289 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen arrived in Damascus at 1930 today on a visit to the Syrian Arab Republic.

The PRC foreign minister was welcomed at Damascus international airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', the heads of the Asia and protocol departments at the Foreign Ministry, the PRC ambassador to Damascus, and the embassy staff.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent, the PRC foreign minister expressed his great happiness in visiting Damascus. He added that he is carrying a written message from the PRC president to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. He went on to say that the objective behind his Damascus visit is to gain firsthand knowledge of the situation in the region and acquaint himself with the Syrian position on the Middle East situation, considering the fact that Syria is an important country in this region. He said that the significance of his visit also derives from the fact that Syria, under the leadership of His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, has been struggling for many years to safeguard its national independence and sovereignty, to resist Israeli aggression and expansionism, enhance Arab solidarity, and regain the usurped territories.

Qian Qichen said that the Middle East is currently going through significant changes. He added: During my current visit, I would like to exchange views with Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and Syrian officials on international issues which are of common interest, particularly the Middle East situation and bilateral ties. He added that the PRC and Syria are friendly countries linked by traditional ties of friendship and cooperation. He added: We will work to enhance and develop these ties.

When asked, the PRC foreign minister said that his country has always called for a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East conflict and also for the convening of an international Middle East peace conference with the participation of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and all the parties concerned.

Khaddam Receives Husayn Al-Husayni, Al-Huss

JN1909144989 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1432 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Damascus, 19 Sep (SANA) — Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam received here today Lebanese Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and Prime Minister Salim al-Huss with the presence of State Minister for Foreign Affairs Nasir Qaddur.

During the meeting, they discussed developments in Lebanon in light of the Arab committee's resumed activity and the statement it issued. They also discussed means of helping the committee implement the Casablanca summit's resolutions, establish national accord, and end the Lebanese crisis.

Khaddam Confers With Lebanon's Shams-al-Din

JN1909203789 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Damascus—At 1830 today, Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam received Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams-al-Din, deputy chairman of the Higher Islamic Shiite Council in Lebanon. During the meeting, they reviewed the tragic situation in Lebanon and discussed the importance of saving Lebanon, stopping the war, achieving national reconciliation among the Lebanese, and facilitating the work of the Arab tripartite committee to implement the Casablanca summit resolution.

They also discussed the importance of cooperation among the Lebanese to end the tragic situation in which they live and to reach national reconciliation that will remove the causes of this crisis and close their ranks in order to achieve peace and rebuild the country to confront the Israeli enemy and continue the liberation of the occupied Lebanese territory.

Khaddam and Shams-al-Din also reviewed the latest developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict and ways to support the intifadah [uprising] in the occupied Arab territory and reinforce the steadfastness and spirit of resistance against the Israeli occupation.

The Arab situation and the crucial stage through which the Arab nation is passing also were discussed.

Iran

Hizballah, Palestinian Leaders Arrive for Talks

NC2209062889 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] A delegation of members of the revolutionary Hizballah movement, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, and Fatah-The Uprising arrived in Tehran last night to assess and review the latest Lebanese and Palestinian developments. The delegation includes Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli, Ahmad Jibril, and Colonel Abu-Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha].

Khamene'i Message Marks Defense Week

LD2109220689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Message issued by Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic Revolution and commander-in-chief of the Iranian Armed Forces, on 21 September eve of Holy Defense Week—read by announcer]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. [passage omitted on prayers for the souls of martyrs] God's salutations and blessings upon His Holiness Imam Khomeyni, witness to the martyrs, imam of the holy warriors, guide of the pious, exalter of the word of the prophets. Sanctified be his soul and may his words be exalted. He threw the fiery wrath of the oppressed people at the deceit of corruption and evil, blasphemy, atheism, tyranny, and oppression of world arrogance, and shook the foundations of the hegemony of the arrogant. Praise to Almighty God for bestowing the robe of his bounties upon the Islamic ummah of Iran and guiding it along its straight path. From the time that the uprising of this nation to establish God's justice and faithfulness to his covenant started, up to the present day, he has not for a moment withheld his grace and bounty from that nation. With His continuous succour He increased the glory, greatness, honor, and dignity of Islam, and brought defeat and despondency upon the enemies of Islam. [passage omitted, further elaborating God's bounties and giving an oft-repeated account of the Iraqi aggression which did not bear any fruit and only brought shame and disgrace upon Iraq and its backers]

Resolution 598 was a reaction to defeats suffered by the aggressive Iraqi regime, which was prepared by the powers supporting it and which was issued by the Security Council. This resolution was issued because of the frightful pressure exerted by the combatants of Islam upon the enemy. It is a document that embodies the slogan of our holy defense, and its complete implementation would have brought definite defeat upon the enemy. Therefore, the Islamic Republic never rejected it. What was at issue for the Islamic Republic and was a reason for not showing haste in accepting it was Iran's insistence on inflicting sufficient punishment upon the aggressor on the battlefields, and Iran's lack of trust in the fulfillment of international covenants by the major powers.

From the time when the resolution was issued until the time when it was officially accepted by the Islamic Republic, the world on the one hand witnessed the heaviest blows inflicted by the forces of Islam upon the enemy and the great victories of our forces over the enemy on the battlefronts, and on the other hand all-round pressure by the supporters of the Iraqi regime against Islamic Iran. Economic embargo, attacks on our installations in the Persian Gulf, the unprecedented concentration of U.S. and NATO military forces around our naval and air borders, even violations of those borders, were among those pressures; so much so that almost every type of pressure was exerted upon the Iranian nation. The U.S. regime nearly entered the field in a direct way. Incitements, extensive chemical bombings, criminal attacks on the cities and civilian aircraft and a nonmilitary vessel, and proving the point that in U.S. support for Iraq, world arrogance was prepared to resort to any crime, are some of the events of that period. It is timely that these telling facts are now explained to the Iranian nation and are laid bare.

The acceptance of Resolution 598 by the Islamic Republic and by its illustrious late leader, once again with God's guidance, returned the enemy's extensive conspiracy to itself and disarmed the enemy, which resorted to every type of crime under the slogan of peace. Perhaps it was God's will that with the acceptance of the resolution the truthfulness of the Islamic Republic would become clearer in the world than ever before; and so that the Iranian nation would come closer to its essential goals in the international sphere. This initiative of the Islamic Republic placed the enemy at the crossroads of defeat. If the resolution was implemented, Islamic Iran would have achieved its demands. And if it was not implemented, the constant claim of the Islamic Republic about the necessity of destroying the root of aggression; the connection between the Iraqi aggression and world hegemony and domination; and the fact that the Iraqi regime has not been truthful in its claim of being peace loving would have been proved. The lack of trust in agreements prepared by the powers—something which the Islamic Republic has always claimed—will spread among all the nations and will encourage them to rely purely upon their own power. [passage omitted, repeating that Iraq has now proved to the world that it was not honest in its claims]

Holding on to some Iranian land, occupied mainly in a stealthy manner, after the cease-fire, and at the cost of the non-implementation of a resolution which for a long time they supported, will bring nothing but remorse and infamy for the enemy. This satanic deceit will only backfire on them. [Koranic verse omitted] Sooner or later they will be forced to evacuate those lands. Everyone knows that revolutionary Iran will not tolerate the presence of an aggressive and evil usurper inside its borders for long. Without doubt, the loss that will befall

the aggressor and the region at this juncture will—as in the past—be a heavy loss. If Saddam had accepted the implementation of the resolution a year ago, now the POW's would have returned, the Arvand River would have been dredged, peace would have been established, and progress in the sphere of reconstruction would have been quite considerable. Responsibility for what has happened to the two countries so far as the result of the procrastination of the Iraqi regime in implementing the resolution, and what will happen in the future, rest on the shoulders of the Iraqi regime and on the person of Saddam.

Always, and even during the war, we have regarded the Iraqi people as our Muslim brothers and we have never wished in our hearts for anything but their well-being. Even at the height of the enemy's criminal actions, our Islamic and humane behavior toward the Iraqi people—whose elaboration is beyond the limits of our present discourse—have been a good testimony to this claim. I firmly announce that the Iraqi nation will not achieve any benefits from the present situation and its consequences. Not only for the sake of our own interests, but also due to what is happening in the region and in the Islamic world, we reject this situation. We call upon the rulers of Iraq to give in to truth and to renounce their obstinacy. The governments that have turned this region into a scene of political and military tensions among brothers, and who have become the agents for the implementation of U.S. policies, should come to their senses. Instead of hurting their brothers they should concentrate their thoughts on their common enemies, especially if they act against Zionism whose shameless crimes bring pain to the heart of every lover of freedom. Then the root of this cancerous cell and most of the problems of the region will be destroyed. Any delay in this will make the task more difficult. It is due to this reason that we have always extended our hands to friendship with all Islamic countries and have announced our readiness for a covenant in fighting against the usurping Zionism and its bullying supporters. [passage omitted thanking God for enabling the Iranian nation to emerge victorious from all tests, and praying for the martyrs and those who suffered in the war]

I wish to offer a few reminders, as reminders benefit the believers:

1. Our foolish and ignorant enemy imagined that we were weak, attacked our borders, and lit the fire of an 8-year long and destructive war. We should be so strong that such a foolish thought will never come to the mind of any bullying idiot and the thought of aggression against Iran will be buried forever.

2. The strengthening of our defensive capability in the first instance consists of strengthening the armed forces, whether military or guards forces. This should be carried out by improving training, organization, and discipline, the preparation of tactics, learning from the experiences of the war, exercises, and maneuvers, and by being equipped with the necessary and modern weaponry. However, unending support for defense consists in the general mobilization of the basij [mobilization unit], war-tested forces, and the completion of the great 20 million-strong armed forces which will be composed of all individuals from society, organized and ready to defend the revolution, the homeland, and their Islamic order. It is necessary that a plan is drawn, according to which all those who reach the age of conscription without any exception—except for the sick and the disabled—will receive military training and will achieve the necessary state of readiness.

3. The armed forces, the guards corps, and other responsible forces, while maintaining their combat readiness while in the conditions of complete peace, should be in the service of the development and reconstruction of the country. Therefore, general military conscription is a holy service which, whether at the time of war or in peacetime, will be in the front rank of requirements by the nation and the country. All the families and every individual youth should realize its importance and should hurry to service with fondness and interest. Being excused from this service, except under conditions which should be clearly laid down, is something contrary to the norms and against the values.

4. Defending Islam will not be merely confined to defending the Islamic homeland. We are prepared to fight and to wage jihad against blasphemy on all the frontiers of Islam. Of course, such a jihad is more extensive and those who lead that war are political, scientific, cultural, and artistic figures who should always be ready to defend Islam.

5. The Islamic Republic's Armed Forces should maintain their full alacrity and preparedness under present conditions, when complete peace has not yet been established. They should not stop their training and above all safeguard the entrenchments of the sacred boundaries. The commanders of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] and the army are obliged to place the planning and vigilance in such matters at the top of their list of priorities.

6. As our dear imam graciously mentioned, preserving the memories of war in some of the cities and war-stricken areas is among the most important present issues. This task, as well as the reconstruction of mementos from the era of the victorious resistance and the establishment of a war museum, must be included in the government's plans and the military organizations.

7. I call on all executive officials in the country to take care of the armed forces, and resolve the problems of these dear ones in an appropriate manner. In addition, the martyrs' families, who are the noblest of self-sacrificing people, should be successful, and officials should do their utmost to serve them as much as possible, and in so doing carry out God's wishes.

Once again I thank the dear people of Iran, and call on them to maintain vigilance and unity, and to show their appreciation of those who gave Islamic Iran pride,

honor, glory, and freedom, hence carrying out the most importance duty of this era. [passage omitted on release of the POW's and paying tribute to Khomeyni]

[Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Hosayni-Khamene'i,

21 September 1989.

PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen To Visit

LD2209094689 Tehran IRNA in English 0916 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 22, IRNA—Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China Qian Qichen is to arrive here on October 6 on a two-day official visit at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

Qichen who is to head a high-powered delegation, will discuss political and economic relations between the two countries and ways of expanding them.

UK Seen as 'Accomplice' in Iraqi 'Crimes'

NC2109202589 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 13 Sep 89 pp 1,11

[Editorial: "Britain, an Accomplice in Saddam's Crimes"]

[Text] The big explosion at the Hallah [name as published] arms and ammunition plant in Iraq has revealed more secrets about the extent of Britain's military cooperation with the Baghdad regime.

A dreadful explosion on 17 August destroyed a secret arms and ammunition plant in Iraq and led to many deaths. Some independent sources put the number of deaths at 1,500, while in its report on the explosion the Baghdad regime claimed that only 19 were killed.

A British news source has said that the Baghdad regime was manufacturing missiles in this plant with the cooperation of Britain. Even though the London government has not officially confirmed the existence of such large-scale cooperation, nevertheless this source stressed the British military experts' cooperation with Iraq in the production of long-range missiles.

The London government insists on proving that it has no military cooperation with the Baghdad regime; and at one point in the past, when Iraq's extensive use of chemical weapons had reached its zenith, it aired a television report in which an effort was made to emphasize the cooperation between German, Dutch, and other companies in providing chemical weapons to Iraq. The television program stressed, meanwhile, that Britain had no role whatsoever in all this.

The explosion at the Iraqi arms and ammunition plant revealed new secrets about the extent of Britain's military cooperation with Iraq and showed that Britain had an active and effective role at various stages in arming Iraq and in manfacturing chemical weapons and missiles for it. In view of this, the question that arises is: Why and how did the explosion taken place? Because of the structure of the Baghdad regime, it is improbable that reliable reports on the reasons for this explosion will leak to the outside world in the near future. Therefore, we will discuss a number of probabilities on the reasons for this incident.

1. The first probability is that the Hallah explosion was caused by opponents of the Iraqi regime. However, by bearing in mind the strong security measures that the Baghdad regime must have taken in such centers, this is a very slight probability. Also, in view of the various security obstacles hindering entry into the center, an infiltration attack at the missile assembly plant seems improbable.

2. The second probability is that the explosion was a result of technical problems. In their reports, the British companies cooperating with the Iraqi regime will try to blame the explosion on technical problems. Nevertheless, in view of the safety measures and alarm systems in such centers, the possibility of an unexpected incident that can lead to destruction on such a scale must be ruled out. Also, by taking into consideration the number of deaths, which is estimated at 1,500, it seems improbable that such a massive explosion could have taken place because of technical faults. This is because alarm and safety systems would have prevented such a great number of casualties, and the damages inflicted would have been very limited.

3. The third and very serious probability is that this explosion was the work of the British themselves and the intention was to destroy a center that will be useless for Britain and its allies from now on.

We do not forget the fact that the London government and Britain's military experts had placed these arms at Saddam's disposal so he could use them in the war against the Islamic Republic of Iran. Now that the war has reached this stage and Saddam's future is extremely uncertain, naturally London and the Baghdad regime's other mentors see no need for such centers. In view of the Western countries' agreements on preventing the export of missile technology to Third World countries, Britain's involvement in the explosion seems more justified, especially when no one knows what will happen in the case of unexpected developments in Iraq, who will gain access to these arms, and toward which objective these arms may be put to use. If this happens, will they not have created problems for Israel and other allies in the Arab world tomorrow?

Some may point out that British military experts, too, were killed in the explosion and may thus rule out the possibility of Britain's involvement.

But the answer to this is clear. Experience has shown that Britain attaches no importance to the lives of others. The fact that some Britons were also accidentally killed will paint a more natural picture and will thus hide London's true objectives in connection with this explosion. Britain has already made the necessary political-military use of

this center up to this point. Its destruction now will be for the sake of future policies.

Whatever the reason and motive behind the explosion at the missile plant, and whoever may have caused it, there is one point here that deserves special attention. That is the extensive and comprehensive military cooperation that existed between Britain and the war criminals ruling Iraq during the imposed war, and the ostrich-like role that the London government played in all this.

The fact that there was military and intelligence cooperation between Britain and Iraq during the imposed war is nothing new. However, at this point more facts are being revealed to prove that this cooperation did exist.

London is an accomplice in Saddam's war crimes, and it should answer precisely to the regional countries and to the selfless Iranian nation for it. The hands of the British are stained with the blood of thousands of Iranian martyrs, and the British should prepare themselves to account for all this. Even if this incident had not taken place, it would still have been clear what role the British played in the war. Britain is well aware of how guilty it is, and the time will come when it will have to account for it.

Attack on British Club in Baghdad Reported

NC2209064289 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 Sep 89

[Text] The British Club in Baghdad was attacked with a grenade on Thursday. According to news agencies, 53 persons—most of them foreigners—were wounded and the club building was damaged. The Iraqi regime has thus far remained silent about the incident and the British Foreign Office has not reacted. However, TANJUG has reported that eight Yugoslavs were among the wounded. The explosion took place at 1630 as a film was being shown on the club's grounds.

U.S. Congressional Letter on Iran Viewed

NC2109194489 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 14 Sep 89 pp 1, 11

[Excerpts] This week, we have witnessed important events pertaining to Iran's foreign policy, which were of special significance. One such event was the letter by 186 members of the U.S. Congress addressed to the Bush Administration. This letter said that it was time to relinquish hopes that a moderate group would emerge in Iran, as such a group does not exist; in fact, all were followers of Ayatollah Khomeyni's policy. Therefore the Bush Administration should concentrate its efforts on toppling the Islamic Republic's system and extending support to the Monafeqin [Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization]. [passage omitted]

The dissemination of this letter clearly proved that the mass media of world oppression had tried to give the people of Iran the impression that Iranian officials have covert contacts with Washington and that the people have been kept in the dark about this. However, with the publication of this humiliating letter, it was proved that Washington had been badly defeated in its efforts and was fully aware of its failure. Otherwise, there would have been no reason for Washington to be angered by Iran's usual negative reply to U.S. groveling for establishment of ties with the Islamic Republic and to raise such a commotion. So, following the defeat of its intensive efforts that have been in progress for a decade, once again Washington began to talk of toppling the Islamic Republic's system.

The publication of the text of the letter generated a violent reaction which took the Washington echelons unawares; the situation that resulted was such that they had to intervene. They asked the congressional representatives to insist that all copies of the letter be collected, and this was hastily done.

It is clear that over the past 10 years, Washington has followed an erroneous policy with regard to Iran and has always suffered defeat. Despite this state of affairs, it has not learned the necessary lessons from all this failure and defeat. With all their atrocities and bestiality, the Washington echelons have not been able to apologize to the Iranian nation and should be ashamed of making any demands with regard to the Islamic Republic of Iran. [passage omitted]

Once again the publication of this letter revealed the true face of the Washington officials and proved that they have not been able to learn from past events. What was clear to the Iranian nation even before the letter was publicized was further brought home to them in a very specific way. Once again they all realized that the campaign against the American provocateurs must continue as before, because, in a nutshell, the United States has not yet become "human." [passage omitted]

Hungarian's Visit Cancelled Due to Israel Ties

LD2109104389 Tehran IRNA in English 1025 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 21, IRNA—In protest against recognition of Israel by the Budapest government, the forthcoming visit to Tehran of the Hungarian ministers of foreign affairs and industry have been postponed and cancelled respectively, Iran's Foreign Ministry announced here Thursday.

The Hungarian foreign affairs minister was to pay a three-day visit to Tehran in late October and the industry minister was scheduled to visit Tehran imminently and take part in the ongoing 15th Tehran International Trade Fair.

Hungarian Ambassador to Tehran Zsigmond Kazmer [name as received] was summoned to the Foreign Ministry this morning and was informed of the decision.

The Hungarian diplomat was told that recognition of the Zionist regime "meant supporting and encouraging aggression and crime and would lead to intensification of tension in the region."

Azerbaijan Cleric Meets With Karrubi 19 Sep

LD1909220689 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Sep 89

[Text] Shaykh ol-Eslam Pashazadeh, bureau head of the Soviet Azerbaijan clergy and representative of the Soviet Azerbaijan people in that country's parliament, who is visiting our country, and the delegation accompanying him, met this morning with Majlis Speaker Mahdi Karrubi. Shaykh ol-Eslam Pashazadeh, describing the situation of the Soviet Union's Muslims, called for expanding relations between the two countries and exchanging tourists. He conveyed the warm greetings of Soviet Muslims to the leader of the Islamic Revolution and the president. Mr Karrubi also expressed his own greetings and those of the Islamic Majlis deputies to the peoples and Muslims of the Soviet Union. Bearing in mind the good relations that exist between the two countries, he hoped the situation for Muslims will improve with every day.

Rafsanjani Urges Improved Ties With Gulf States

LD1809174589 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] The new Iranian ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, Hadi, before leaving for his post met President Hashemi-Rafsanjani this evening and presented a report on relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United Arab Emirates, and the Persian Gulf region. During this meeting, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, while stressing the importance of expanding ties with the Muslim and neighboring countries, particularly the countries of the Persian Gulf region, expressed the hope that Hadi, in view of his experience and personality, would succeed in improving relations, changing the present conditions, and strengthening security and tranquillity within the framework of independence and national sovereignty of all countries in the region.

The president emphasized: The selection of such a person as Hadi, who is one of the revolutionary and political figures of the country, proves the importance that the Islamic Republic of Iran attaches to the southern Persian Gulf region.

Kuwait's New 'Positive Diplomacy' Viewed

NC1609112489 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 5 Sep 89 p 12

[Unattributed commentary: "Kuwait: Moving Toward Political Realism"]

[Text] Recently Kuwait has taken some steps to move out of the phase of past policies and to move into a new phase of positive diplomacy and detente.

In the past, the policies of this small country in the southern part of the Persian Gulf were unstable and vulnerable and as a result fanned the flames of many of the crises in the Persian Gulf during the 8 years of Iraq's aggressive war against Iran.

In those days Kuwait's policy ran parallel to Iraq's diplomacy of terror, and it always acted as Iraq's reliable ally. In addition to its role in opening the doors of the Persian Gulf to foreign colonialist powers, Kuwait also became part of a trend to inflict blows on Islamic Iran.

Though the record of Kuwait's regional policies paints a gloomy picture, nevertheless the trends toward implementing principled and logical policies, which the Kuwaiti officials have now started, can improve the picture and present a good outlook for logical and permanent relations between the Islamic Republic and Kuwait.

In its new trend, Kuwait should adjust its past policies and introduce a new framework.

In making new policies Kuwait should bear in mind that any policy contrary to the interests and the national security of all sides in the region will lead to tension and crisis. The logical thing to do is to stop relying on the strength of regional countries and to stop inviting foreigners to look after the region's security.

Security and stability in the Persian Gulf can be achieved only through the cooperation of the regional countries, and the other regional countries should be encouraged by Kuwait to accept Iran's traditional and historic role in safeguarding security to the benefit of the people in region. With the stands that Kuwait's political officials have recently adopted on world and regional issues, the outlook of relations between the two countries is bright and favorable.

Unfortunately Kuwait's policies in the past were aimed at objectives delineated by the enemies of the interests of regional countries. However, Kuwait was always used as a shield to protect the greed of foreign powers. Kuwait's new policies and the severence of the link with the greedy policies of Iraq for confronting Iran in the region, can be the key to regional political solutions, because improving political relations with an important member of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council and Iran will pave the way for future understanding with the rest.

Another point that can be effective in accelerating the process of normalization of relations between the two countries can be the Kuwaiti Government's assistance to the considerably large Shiite and revolutionary Muslims in that country. Until now, this sector has been targeted for suppression, torture, and unnecessary molestation. These pressures should be removed. The Shiites—like the rest of the Islamic sects—should be free to carry out their religious duties, and the Kuwaiti Government and police should stop their threats and terrorism. The same applies to the other regional countries that want to establish logical relations with Iran.

At any rate, the current circumstances dictate that the regional countries begin to strive to end their differences with Islamic Iran. This will ensure the return of stability and security to the region, and this can be achieved if the regional countries start to move toward political realism, and Kuwait has already taken the first steps toward this.

In conclusion, the consolidation of cooperation among regional countries will be extremely helpful in achieving stability. Meanwhile, the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council can play an important role in this.

Sri Lanka

Minister Says Indian Troops To Leave by 31 Dec

BK2109145489 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1401 GMT 21 Sep 89

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Sept 21 (LANKAPUVATH)—Sri Lankan Foreign Minister and Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne said at today's Cabinet news briefing in Colombo that Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi will honour his word to withdraw the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] from Sri Lanka by December 31, 1989. Mr Wijeratne was replying to a question in which a journalist quoted an "Indian spokesman" as saying that a complete withdrawal of the IPKF from Sri Lanka will depend on whether the island's Tamils get assurances about their safety. Mr Wijeratne said, "we do not go by New Delhi spokesmen, we go by Mr Rajiv Gandhi's talks. We don't care for others who talk there. Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of India has spoken with me and he will honour what he has indicated. Let us not get confused by observers and correspondents and so forth."

The Cabinet spokesman said there was no link between devolution and the withdrawal of the IPKF. Devolution was in the entire country. All the provinces were the same. There was no special treatment for any particular province. No violations had been reported in the North and the East since the cease-fire came into effect yesterday morning. The committee, comprising Sri Lankan Army commander Lt General Hamilton Wanasinghe and the general officer commanding the IPKF, General A. S. Kalkat, was meeting today to review the situation.

The LTTE had announced a cease-fire. "Don't worry, they keep to their word," said Mr Wijeratne.

The minister of foreign affairs and minister of state for defence said the Citizens Volunteer Force [CVF] has been recruited and trained to supplement the police. The inspector general of police is the commander of the CVF. They will be assigned to various police stations. "Those things will take place from now on," he said.

He said that the Sri Lankan Government will try to obtain the release of LTTE cadres being held in IPKF camps. "We'll try to get their release. We'll have to talk to the Indian Government on that. The president has asked me to discuss with the Indian authorities to get their release."

Associated with Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne at this morning's Cabinet news briefing were Minister of Industries Ranil Wickramasinghe; Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs Nanda Mathew; the acting minister of finance, Vincent Perera; and Minister of State for Information N.A.J. Ranasinghe. Officials participating in the Cabinet news briefing were secretary, Ministry of Defence, General Sepala Attygalle; secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bernard Tilakaratne; and secretary, Ministry of State for Defence, General Cyril Ranatunge.

Says IPKF Pullout Unconditional

BK2109095889 Hong Kong AFP in English 0939 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Colombo, Sept 21 (AFP)—Indian troops deployed in Sri Lanka "shall and will" leave the island by December 31 as part of a bilateral agreement, Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne said here Thursday.

The Indian Peace-Keeping Force (IPKF) will withdraw by the deadline as pledged by New Delhi and discussions on the rate of withdrawal between the two governments have already begun, the minister said.

The minister discounted comments by the Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesman that the withdrawal of the IPKF was linked to devolution of powers to the island's Tamil majority northeast.

"We go by what (Indian Premier) Rajiv Gandhi says. We don't care for others who talk there (in New Delhi). Mr Gandhi has spoken with me and he will honour what he has indicated," Mr Wijeratne told reporters here Thursday.

A joint statement Monday by Colombo and New Delhi said "all efforts will be made" to accelerate the IPKF withdrawal by the end of the year.

Asked if he was confident about a total withdrawal by the deadline, Mr Wijeratne said: "What do you mean confident, they will. They shall and they will. If they don't they will have to suffer the consequence."

Monday's agreement on the troop pullout ended a three-month-long diplomatic rift between the two South Asian neighbours. The agreement was signed after hectic diplomatic moves and talks between Mr Gandhi and Mr Wijeratne.

Indian troops are currently observing a ceasefire since Wednesday morning with the dominant Tamil guerrilla group in line with the latest accord, and there had been no truce violations, Mr Wijeratne said.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) guerrilla group announced Wednesday its acceptance of the ceasefire with the 42,000 strong IPKF.

Mr Wijeratne said the government was constituting a peace committee consisting of members of almost all political parties, including former Tamil guerrilla groups, to recommend measures to restore peace in the Northeast.

The island's two million Tamil minority is concentrated in the Northeast.

Minister Urges Accuracy From Indian Journalists

BK2109115389 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] The minister of rural industrial development, S. Thondaman, speaking to reporters at Tiruchchi airport last Sunday before leaving for Colombo, appealed to the Indian journalists to present a correct picture of the scenario in Sri Lanka to the people of Tamil Nadu. He spoke of the efforts of President Premadasa to alter the status and, if necessary, change the very framework of the Constitution to establish peace. He referred to Mr Premadasa's call at the all-party conference and said the people in the island should realize that the time for peace was now or never.

Asked whether the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] would disarm if the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] was totally withdrawn from the north and northeast, Mr Thondaman said that the LTTE in their talks with the president had made it clear that the cessation of hostilities by the LTTE is quid pro quo for the withdrawal of the IPKF. He appealed to all the Tamil groups not to suspect the bonafides of Mr Premadasa, and if the people did not respond to Mr Premadasa's appeal, there would not be peace in the island in the near future.

Indefinite Cease-Fire Said 'Holding' 20 Sep

BK2009132789 Hong Kong AFP in English 1249 GMT 20 Sep 89

[Text] Colombo, Sept 20 (AFP)—An indefinite ceasefire between Indian troops and Tamil guerrillas in Sri Lanka was holding on its first day Wednesday with both sides reserving the right to take defensive military action.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), in a statement from its London office Wednesday, said it was accepting the truce on a reciprocal basis but was reserving the right to hit back if attacked by Indian troops or rival Tamil militant groups.

"We reserve the right to self defence if the Indian army or its quisling groups launch any attack against the LTTE," the statement relesed here said.

It said LTTE's supremo Velupillai Prabhakaran had given orders to all his cadres to cease military operations against the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) in line with the truce that went into effect at 0630 (0030 GMT) Wednesday.

Indian officials here echoed the sentiments and said the IPKF had been ordered to take defensive action or shoot anyone seen carrying guns or explosives or trying to create unrest in the Tamil-majority northeast of the island.

Sri Lankan military officials said the truce appeared to be holding and there were no immediate reports of violations.

The ceasefire is part of an agreement between Colombo and New Delhi on the IPKF pullout by December 31 linked to strengthening a semi-autonomous Tamil-majority provincial council and setting up of a provincial police force.

Tamil sources said the group seems to be unhappy about conditions attached to the ceasefire.

The LTTE said it was disappointed to observe the different interpretations of the latest Indo-Lanka agreement on the troop pullout given by Colombo and New Delhi and reiterated its reservations about India's policy towards the island republic.

Indian officials have said that the agreement was interlinked to safety and security of the island's minority Tamil community, an issue played down by Colombo.

"Though we have our own reservations with regard to ulterior motives of the Indian strategy in Sri Lanka, we hope that they leave by December 31, 1989," the LTTE statement said, adding that it was necessary for the IPKF to pull out to restore peace in Tamil regions.

The LTTE said it was reserving the right to go back on its decision and re-evaluate its strategy if India maintained a military presence ignoring the agreed process of withdrawal.

The LTTE's rival People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOTE) has expressed scepticism about the ceasefire saying it did not apply to fighting between Tamil militant factions.

India has some 42,000 troops currently in the northeast in line with a July 1987 Indo-Sri lanka peace accord which sought to end a bloody Tamil separatist campaign led by the LTTE.

New Delhi launched a major offensive against the LTTE after the group repudiated the peace plan and refused to surrender arms. Since October 1987, more than 1,000 Indians and over 2,500 suspected rebels have died in bitter combat.

Security Forces Suspend Anti-Subversive Operations

BK2109142189 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1303 GMT 21 Sep 89

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Sept 21 (LANKAPUVATH)—Sri Lanka's security forces will observe a suspension of

counter subversive operations for 72 hours commencing from 0600 hours (local time) Wednesday, 27 September, in the first instance.

The announcement made this evening in a communique by the Secretariat of the all-party conference followed the government and the opposition delegation having discussed measures that would further help to expedite the restoration of peace.

It was agreed as an immediate step to call upon all armed militant groups to desist from acts of violence and sabotage.

If the armed militant groups respond favourably to make use of this opportunity to give themselves up to this joint call and refrain from acts of violence and sabotage, this period of three days will be further extended. It was agreed that an independent committee will be established immediately in consultation with the opposition parties to monitor the steps taken in the restoration of peace and normalcy. During this period all steps will be taken to receive those who wish to make use of this opportunity to give themselves up. The communique issued by the Secretariat of the all-party conference, stated the president, His Excellency R. Premadasa, met a delegation of five opposition parties in parliament led by the Hon (Mrs) Sirimavo R.D. Bandaranaike, leader of the opposition, at the consultations under the all-party conference on 19th September, 1989. The other members of the delegation were: Mr Stanley Tilakaratne, M.P. [member of Parliament], Mr Mangala Moonesinghe, M.P., Mr Anuruddha Ratwatte, M.P. and Mr C.V. Gooneratne, M.P. of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, Mr Athauda Seneviratne, M.P. of the United Socialist Alliance, Mr Dinesh Gunawardene, M.P. of the Mahajana Eksath Peramuna, Mr K. Premachandran, M.P., and Mr V.K. Yogasangari, M.P. of Eelam People's Revolutionary Front, and Mr M.H.M. Ashraff, M.P., Mr N.M. Buhardeen, MP, and Mr S.S.M. Abubakr, MP of the Sri Lanka Muslim Congress. Hon A.C.S. Hameed, minister of higher education, science and technology, Hon Ranil Wickremasinghe, minister of industries, Hon Ranjan Wijeratne, minister of foreign affairs, Hon Nanda Mathew, minister of youth affairs and sports and Hon A.R. Mansoor, minister of trade and shipping, were associated with his excellency the president at the discussions. The meeting took place at the request of five opposition parties in Parliament. Hon (Mrs) Sirimavo Bandaranaike on behalf of the delegation made several proposals to improve the law and order situation in the country. His excellency the president informed the delegation of the various steps the government has already taken to restore peace and normalcy and referred to the appeal made by the government to the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] on 17th September, 1989 which also stated: "If the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP) and their associates, the Deshapremi Janatha Viyaparaya (DJV), communicate their willingness to respond positively to the repeated call of the government for the restoration of peace and normalcy, then, there will be no need for the forces to continue their ongoing security operations. In such an event the government is prepared to set up a committee to monitor the effective maintenance of the cessation of violence". The government and the opposition delegation discussed measures that would further help to expedite the restoration of peace. It was agreed as an immediate step to call upon all armed militant groups to desist from acts of violence and sabotage. At the same time, the security forces will observe a suspension of countersubversive military operations for 72 hours commencing from 6 hours Wednesday the 27th of September in the first instance. If the armed militant groups respond favourably to this joint call and refrain from acts of violence and sabotage, this period of three days would be further extended.

LTTE Rebels Agree To Suspend Fighting

BK2209103189 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0955 GMT 22 Sep 89

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Sept 22 (LANKAPUVATH)—The LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] has announced that it will reciprocate the cessation of hostilities effective in the Northern and Eastern provinces from Wednesday morning, following this week's agreement between India and Sri Lanka. Today's DAILY NEWS states that the Political Committee of the LTTE said in a statement that its military command has issued orders to all guerrilla formations functioning in the North and East to suspend all military actions against the Indian Army. The statement noted that the LTTE had already previously indicated its willingness for a cease-fire and said they would observe it "if the Indians cease all armed operations against our cadres." "We reserve the right to self-defence if the Indian Army or its quisling armed groups launch any armed action against the LTTE," the statement said.

The statement also expressed disappointment that commentaries and interpretations by Indian Foreign Ministry officials in Delhi "seem to contradict the content of the joint communique issued by India and Sri Lanka in Colombo."

The LTTE said it had its own reservations about "the ulterior motives of the Indian strategy in Sri Lanka," but hoped the troop pullout would be completed by December 31 to facilitate peace and normalcy in the Tamil-speaking regions.

The Tigers said they reserve the right to reconsider their decisions and reevaluate strategy if India reverses the course of peace and deescalation of the conflict and opts for the policy of military occupation by suspending the agreed process of troops withdrawal.

LTTE Rebels Say IPKF Violating Cease-Fire

BK2109141889 Hong Kong AFP in English 1412 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Madras, India, Sept 21 (AFP)—Sri Lanka's dominant Tamil militant group accused India Thursday of violating an indefinite cease-fire which went into effect Wednesday in the island's Tamil populated Northeast.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said in a statement here that Indian troops deployed in the region under a 1987 accord were violating the truce by setting up new camps and arresting civilian suspects.

The group said the Indian Army had opened four camps since Tuesday in northern Killinochchi District and rounded up several villagers in Jaffna region for interrogation Wednesday.

According to reports from Colombo, the truce across the Tamil-majority Northeastern Province, where the Indian troops are deployed, was holding up.

The LTTE, which launched a bush war against the Indian Peace-Keeping Force (IPKF) in October 1987 in which thousands have died, charged the Indian troops with "calculated actions to violate the cease-fire agreement."

The cease-fire is part of an agreement between New Delhi and Colombo signed Monday under which the estimated 42,000 Indian troops now in Sri Lanka are set to withdraw by December 31.

The LTTE had warned Wednesday that it reserved the right to hit back if attacked by the IPKF or rival Tamil militant groups during the truce.

Indian officials have also said that the IPKF would take "defensive action" if attacked by LTTE guerrillas or if the troops see anyone carrying arms without permission.

Indian troops landed in Sri Lanka's Northeast under the 1987 bilateral pact which sought to end Tamil separatism. The accord has been repudiated by the LTTE, which in April, in a diplomatic snub to New Delhi, opened direct peace talks with Colombo.

Till the accord was signed, Sri Lankan Tamil groups carried on their bloody separatist campaign from India, which is separated from the island nation by a narrow strip of sea.

Premadasa Begins All-Party Consultations 18 Sep

BK1809115789 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] The individual consultative process, with political parties or groups which attended the all-party conference [APC], will begin today at the Presidential Secretariat at Colombo. President R. Premadasa is scheduled to have discussions with the representatives of the Democratic Workers Congress and the All-Ceylon Muslim League from 0900 and 1100 respectively. Observers from political parties and groups which attended the conference are also expected to be present at these individual discussions with the president.

The Presidential Secretariat says that consultations are on in regard to fixing of dates and time of the president's meeting with the other parties and groups who took part in the APC. Political parties and groups, which are parties of the all-party conference, could obtain their dates and time, if they have not done so, before the second meeting of the all-party conference. This meeting is scheduled for the 12th of next month.

Over 70 delegates from 21 political parties and groups met last Wednesday at the BMICH [Bandaranaike Memorial Internal Conference Hall] under the auspices of President Premadasa to resolve the present crisis.

Peace Committee Set Up for Northeastern Provinces

BK2109113989 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1052 GMT 21 Sep 89

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Sept 21 (LANKAPUVATH)—The government today announced its decision to constitute a peace committee for the northern and eastern provinces and said the first sitting would be held on 9th October. The committee will be chaired by the minister of higher education, science and technology, A.C.S. Hameed, and the secretary to the Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Home Affairs will be the secretary to the committee. All decisions will be on the principle of the consensus of the membership to which the chairman and the secretary shall not be a party.

Fourteen political parties are being invited to constitute the peace committee. Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne said at this morning's Cabinet news briefing that any other political parties who wished to be represented in the committee will also be invited.

The following is the text of the government communique on the establishment of a peace committee of the northern and eastern provinces:

Whereas the government of Sri Lanka has decided to constitute a peace committee for the northern and eastern provinces comprising three representatives from each of the following political parties, viz.

All Ceylon Muslim League
Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front
Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front
Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students
Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam
Sri Lanka Freedom Party
Sri Lanka Muslim Congress
Tamil Eelam Liberation Organisation
All Ceylon Tamil Congress

Tamil United Liberation Front
United National Party
Sri Lanka Mahajana Pakshaya
United Socialist Alliance
Mahajana Eksath Peramuna

The members of the said committee would be invited to participate in the sittings of the said committee commencing with the first sitting on 9th October, 1989. The said committee will be chaired by Hon. A.C.S. Hameed, minister of higher education, science and technology. The secretary to the Ministry of Public Administration, Provincial Councils and Home Affairs will be the secretary to the said committee. All decisions will be on the principle of the consensus of the membership to which the chairman and the secretary shall not be a party.

The terms of reference of the said committee shall be to:

(I) Recommend measures to achieve amity among all political and ethnic groups within the said provinces.

(II) Review the progress in the implementation of the 13th amendment to the Sri Lanka Constitution.

(III) Recommend steps to make the provincial councils more effective.

(IV) Work towards the achievements of the aspirations of the people of the northern and eastern provinces while preserving the unity and integrity of Sri Lanka.

(V) Recommend measures to ensure the physical safety and security of the inhabitants of the northern and eastern provinces.

(VI) Recommend to the appropriate authorities measures to bring within the democratic framework all groups and interests in the northern and eastern provinces who had not participated in the provincial council elections of 1988, and the parliamentary elections of 1989.

(VII) And such other and further matters as the committee may consider relevant.

The committee will report such measures and steps as are necessary to achieve these objectives to H.E. The President.

Signed: K.H.J. Wijedasa, secretary to the president, Presidential Secretariat Colombo, 20th September, 1989.

U.S. Diplomat Accused of Aiding JVP Subversives

BK2209012489 Hong Kong AFP in English 1631 GMT 21 Sep 89

[Text] Colombo, Sept 21 (AFP)—A member of Parliament [MP] from Sri Lanka's ruling party accused a Colombo-based U.S. diplomat Thursday of violating the island republic's customs laws and funding anti-government rebel activity.

United National Party (UNP) MP H.R. Piyasiri said that the second secretary of the U.S. Embassy here, Paul Malioht, broke customs regulations and had handed over a "small bag" to a passenger who had cleared customs at Colombo international airport on September 2.

The passenger was named as Prince Gunasekara, a leading human rights lawyer here.

"It is alleged that Mr. Malioht had given a grant of 5,000 dollars to certain lawyers to file action against police and security personnel on behalf of subversives captured by them while engaging in violence and destructive activities," Mr. Piyasiri said.

He called on the government to order an investigation.

Mr. Piyasiri told Parliament that the diplomat was "detected" at the airport with an identity card belonging to another person and said the man's name was linked with funding for subversives, an official term for Janatha Vimukti Peramuna (JVP, or People's Liberation Front).

It was the first public declaration of foreign aid for anti-government activity by an MP of President Ranasinghe Premadasa's UNP.

"Mr. Malioht has also sent in reports favourable to subversive movements, in fact undermining those who are committed to safeguarding the democratic system," the MP charged. He did not say what the diplomat is alleged to have reported or where the reports were sent.

U.S. Embassy officials were not immediately available for comment.

Mr. Piyasiri said it was clear that India's external intelligence agency, the research and analysis wing, "organised terror and violence in the north" where Tamil guerrillas are active.

Outside the northeast, the Sinhalese JVP is leading a violent campaign to overthrow the government and has been acused of killing over 4,500 people in the past two years.

4 Youths With Arms, Explosives Arrested

BK1709113589 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Four schoolboys from a (Talwekelle) estate, who have undergone military training in an IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force]-run Citizens Volunteer Force—CVF—camp in Trincomalee, were taken into custody with plastic explosives and automatic weapons (?from) the estate in a combined operation early on Friday morning. About 5 to 10 kg of plastic explosives, a stock of ammunition, a submachinegun, weapons training manuals, posters and reams of paper for drawing posters were reported to have been found in different locations in the estate, sources said.

According to an eyewitness, the submachinegun, along with some other items, was found hidden in block of clay on which statues of deities have been kept in the [word indistinct] on the estate.

According to reliable sources, the boys, aged between 17 to 20 years, were arrested following investigation into a break-in at a CWC [Ceylon Workers Congress] run training venture in Kotigala early this month. The boys are believed to have been among a group of 100 youths from estates in Nuwara Eliya alleged to have been taken by an EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Force] member for training with the CVF in the north and east. It is believed that the young men, who have finished their training in the camp in Tricomalee, have been sent to the estate with the plastic explosives and other weapons to await instructions from their masters to engage in a campaign of destruction in the hill country.

422 'Subversives' Arrested in 24 Hours

BK1709123289 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0915 GMT 17 Sep 89

["OANA/pool" item]

[Excerpt] Colombo, Sept 17 (LANKAPUVATH)—Four hundred and twenty-two subversives were arrested by the security forces during the last 24 hours, throughout the island. Among them were several hardcore subversives who are being questioned by special security teams, states a government communique issued today.

It further states security forces shot and killed a hardcore subversive, H.A. Sujeewa, while trying to escape from a safe house. The deceased Sujeewa was the military wing leader of the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] in the Polonnaruwa District. He was wanted by the security forces for the killing of a soldier at Giritale, a police officer at the Minneriya bus stand, and also for the killings of several civilians whom the JVP suspected as informants. The security forces conducted a search operation on information given by the public that deceased was hiding in a safe house at Rajaela in the Polonnaruwa District.

The ENLF [Eelam National Liberation Front] and LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] militants clashed at Neeraveli in the Jaffna District and two LTTE militants were killed and two injured militants were taken into custody.

IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] troops shot and wounded two LTTE militants in Vavuniya. In another incident in the same area the IPKF shot and killed three LTTE militants during an exchange of fire.

At Konkulam in the Batticaloa District, militants shot and killed Sinnathamby Wijeratnam, a businessman, having taken him away from his residence. His body was found by his wife the following day.

During a cordon and search operation in Maligawatha, security forces arrested 284 suspected subversives and handed them over to the Maligawatha and Maradana police for further investigations. In the search operation a .38 pistol and 12.9 mm rounds of ammunition were also recovered. [passage omitted]

2 Killed, 24 Wounded in Car Bomb Blast

BK1909072889 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0712 GMT 19 Sep 89

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Sept 19 (LANKAPUVATH)—Two people were killed and 24 others seriously wounded when a powerful car bomb exploded this morning close to the police station at Gampaha, a bustling agricultural town 35 kilometres north of Colombo. Police told LANKAPUVATH the explosion occurred at 0900 hours local time. They said two civilians were killed, while 15 civilians, eight policemen and a woman police constable were seriously wounded.

Police said that preliminary investigations indicate the bomb was being taken to the police station, when the car transporting it was held up in a peak hour traffic jam, close to the police station. The driver, realising that the car would not make it to the police station before the time bomb was activated, abandoned the vehicle, an Elf van, and disappeared. The explosion had followed.

19 Sep Government Communique on Security Situation

BK1909091089 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0757 GMT 19 Sep 89

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 19 Sep (LANKAPUVATH)—As 35 more subversives surrendered to the security forces, a government communique issued today reported there was a good response to the call to subversives to surrender.

The government communique states that 35 subversives surrendered to the security forces within the last 24 hours. The subversives surrendered to the security forces in Colombo, Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa, and Puttalam. H.D. Jinadasa, a subversive leader who escaped from the magazine prison last December, surrendered to the Army detachment in Anamaduwa along with 13 others. A special team of investigators is now interrogating these much wanted subversives before they are handed over to detention camps for rehabilitation. The response to the government's call to surrender has been good and there is hope that more will start coming in soon according to security forces.

Security forces conducting cordon and search operations took into custody 245 subversives at Melsiripura in the Kurunegala area. Of the 125 subversives taken in for questioning, 19 have been identified as hardcore subversives who have been involved in subversive activity in

the area for a long time. According to security sources, all those being questioned if found to be innocent will be released immediately.

Subversives had removed stamps and cash from the Dodampahala sub-post office in Dickwella and set fire to the building. The same group, while getting ready to loot and burn shops owned by Muslims, was intercepted by the security forces. Security forces had opened fire at the armed subversives, killing two. Security forces also recovered galkatas [pistols] and cartridges.

At Seenipella in the Mawarala police area subversives exploded two bombs close to a security forces ambush site. Security forces opened fire killing two hardcore subversives identified as Karuna and Donald. Subversive literature and hand bombs were also recovered by the security forces.

Eight subversives in all were killed by the security forces in various parts of the island.

At Hewagamwatte in the Padukka police area security forces recovered five 12-bore shotguns, galkatas, cartridges, Army uniforms, web belts and subversive literature.

D.P.J. Arunashantha was killed due to a bomb explosion. At the time of the incident he was said to be manufacturing this bomb in a house close to the Kandawala church.

At Kirindiwela a police foot-patrol opened fire killing a wanted hardcore subversive identified as H.P. Jayaratne, and recovered from the deceased an improvised explosive device.

During an operation, security forces had shot at a subversive in Hemmathagama in Kegalle injuring him during a follow-up operation.

Security forces recovered shotguns, sets of Army uniforms, cartridges, sets of Gemunu watch [security organization] badges and sets of police uniforms.

In the Kegalle District, subversives set fire to a sub post office, a private bus and also robbed ticket books and cash from SLTB [Sri Lanka Transport Board] buses.

A post office and sub-post office were burnt by subversives in the Matara District.

In the Passara police area, security forces recovered from a subversive hideout 375 national identity cards, 108 radio licences and 41 TV licences.

At Udurawana, in the Wattegama police area, on information given by the public, security forces recovered from a subversive safe house shotguns, cartridges, several rounds of ammunition, Army batons, cap badges and collar badges of the Gemunu watch.

In the Anuradhapura District, subversives set fire to several government buildings and documents.

A police patrol was ambushed by subversives at Giritale. Police opened fire and the subversives had fled leaving two improvised explosive devices.

In the Kurunegala District subversives set fire to the Muwankanda rubber factory and several government buildings.

At Muriyankulama Mee Oya in the Puttalam area, security forces killed two subversives and recovered shotguns, 50 kg of high explosives, 30 kg of low explosives, cartridges, 24 detonators, batteries, wires, Army and police uniforms.

In the Trincomalee sector, the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] have recovered a large number of mines and wires from LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] bases.

Babu, an LTTE militant, was killed by the IPKF.

Four LTTE militants, who attempted to place a time bomb weighing 10 kg at the entrance to the Vavuniya Kachcheri [court], were fired upon by CVF [Citizens Volunteer Force] personnel.

528 'Subversives' Taken Into Custody

BK2109124789 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 1102 GMT 21 Sep 89

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Sept 21 (LANKAPUVATH)—Security forces conducting cordon and search operations throughout the island took into custody 528 subversives, 250 of them were from the Ratmalana area. At Dehiwala security forces searched a vehicle and recovered a large haul of subversive posters, pamphlets and arrested 3 subversives, states a government communique issued today. It states that in the Gampaha District subversives burnt several sub-post offices and also robbed cash from them. At Naiwala, security forces recovered 31 unidentified dead bodies. At Hiriwaduna in the Kegalle District security forces on ambush killed one subversive and recovered .33 rifles, shotguns, cartridges and ammunition from a subversive hideout. An arrested subversive led the security forces to a jungle hideout in Balawinna Ratnapura where 12-bore shot guns, locally-made bombs, explosives and crackers were recovered, states the communique.

At Ampangala in the Urubokka police area, on information received from the public, security forces conducted a cordon and search operation and killed one subversive and arrested another with shotguns. The government communique further states that at Kottagoda in the Dickwella police area an unknown armed gang stabbed to death a family of four. An unknown armed gang shot three members of a family. In the Hambantota District, subversives set fire to several government buildings.